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MK NEWS

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thecentre:mk's Santa a festive record breaker

SEE **PAGE 16**

24-page Christmas TV and leisure guide inside

Move to axe Fenny Lock traveller site

BY KIRSTEN RAWLINS
kirsten.rawlins@mk-news.co.uk

RECOMMENDATIONS have been made to stop the construction of a travellers' site – despite £284,000 having already been spent on it.

Last week the Fenny Lock Travellers' Site Review Group said the remaining £1.56million initially designated for building the site should instead be used to house people currently put up in B&Bs.

A Government grant of £1.8million had been allocated to MK Council solely for the purpose of building a travellers' site.

Of that grant money, the first £284,000 was spent on land work, project management and land searches at Fenny Lock.

But at its final meeting on December 6, the group which was set up by the council to review the site proposals, said the remaining money – which is no longer ring-fenced – should be spent elsewhere.

It said the money could build up to 40 houses.

If used for a travellers' site, the money would build only ten pitches, each of which could accommodate a six-berth caravan.

Cllr Andrew Dransfield said: "It's all preparation work done by the officers. Why spend so much money without a clear go-ahead?

"It was a unanimous decision made by the review group (to stop work on the site). The cabinet should be listening to the council."

The planned site in Fenny Lock was given the go-ahead in March as part of Government targets for 35 pitches across Milton Keynes, despite strong opposition from residents and parish councils.

In October, MKNEWS reported around 30 families remained in bed and breakfast accommodation in and around the city waiting to be rehoused. Thirty families are still waiting to be homed.

Review group chairman Nigel Long said: "There was a comprehensive gathering of evidence from a wide range of people.

"We decided the location was appropriate for the travellers' site proposals, however if we have £1.8million of capital investment, we believe it could be used better. We could get around 40 houses from the money, or put the money into local housing stock.

"There were two things which surprised us when we gathered the evidence. Firstly, a big chunk of the people applying to use the site are already living in good quality accommodation, and therefore we didn't feel there was a real housing need.

"We feel there are people out there in a much greater need – for example, people who are living in Bedford and Luton (in B&Bs).

"We also found out that a lot of people would be moving into Milton Keynes to use the site.

"We feel the council is much better off building houses to meet the needs of the people in Milton Keynes.

"I think the decisions were made very democratically and would be surprised if the cabinet did not take note of our recommendations."

The final decision will be made by the cabinet at the full council meeting next Tuesday.

It was due to be discussed at a council meeting last night.

A council spokesman said: "This issue has been looked at length over the past years.

"It will be a subject of discussion in council meetings. It is still going to be a matter of discussion."

Graham Hoadly as Sarah The Cook in Dick Whittington

There's always a good read in MK's favourite newspaper

PANTO fever is in the air as Dick Whittington's dame Sarah the Cook browses the city's finest local newspaper. The show opened at MK Theatre on Friday, starring Dirk 'The Face' Benedict, Joanna Page and Joel Montague. You can find out about all the pantomimes around the area in our 24-page Christmas TV Guide inside today's MK NEWS.

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Fans-tastic: Ghana played Latvia in the first international match at stadiummk

Twinning inquiries follow football bid

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

THE city's role in England's World Cup 2018 bid has put MK in the international shop window.

The Chamber of Commerce has opened talks with others around the world with the aim of twinning Milton Keynes with other cities.

Enquiries have been received from France, Macedonia, and as far afield as Ivory Coast with a view to setting up links for the transfer of trade, business and students.

On June 5, Ghana played Latvia in the first international match at stadiummk, and there may even be the opportunity to twin for football reasons, with talks with the Nigerian and Ghanaian Chambers of Commerce in the early stages.

Rita Spada, chief executive of the Chamber, explained the part played in the bid really put the city on the world stage.

She said: "The football bid raised the city's profile beyond the norm, so people know there's an opportunity here.

"The reason we twin is for the benefit of the community - it's about future markets, and sharing knowledge and information.

"At the moment there's a desire, and we need to narrow down what our interests are – what can we offer and put on the table?"

■ LAST week MK NEWS quoted MP Mark Lancaster on the front page as saying the World Cup bid was a waste of time.

We would like to make it clear that Mr Lancaster was responding to a specific question asked by MK NEWS about the Prime Minister's last minute trips to Zurich, not the local or national bid as a whole.

In reply to our question Mr Lancaster said that perhaps these eleventh hour efforts were wasted as, sadly, England was knocked out in the first round.

We would also like to acknowledge that Mr Lancaster, along with many other leading figures in Milton Keynes, has in fact gone to great lengths to support both MK's bid for host city status, and for England to host the tournament in 2018.

Whilst ultimately a disappointing result, all agree this has been a hugely positive process for the city.

Road closed after lorries and car collide

TWO people were hospitalised after a road traffic collision involving two lorries and a car on Monday morning.

The A508 Northampton Road, Cosgrove, was closed for around three hours following the collision at 11.15am.

A Ford Fiesta collided with a Volvo lorry, travelling in the opposite direction, which caused a Mercedes lorry to collide with the back of the Volvo.

The driver of the Fiesta, a 20-year-old man from Adstock, in Buckinghamshire, was taken to Milton Keynes Hospital with a serious head injury.

The driver of the Mercedes lorry, from Marchington in Staffordshire, was taken to Coventry Hospital with leg injuries. Anyone with information or who witnessed this collision should contact the Drivewatch Hotline on 0800 174615, or fill in the form at www.northants.police.uk/drivewatch

Police at the scene on the A508: Two people were taken to hospital

Cabbie guilty of strangling wife

BY KIRSTEN RAWLINS
kirsten.rawlins@mk-news.co.uk

A HUSBAND accused of strangling his wife to death was yesterday found guilty of murder.

Somalian cab driver Musdafe Fara Jama, of Tolcarne Avenue, Fishermead, was sentenced to life imprisonment with a minimum jail term of 20 years.

The jury returned a unanimous verdict after deliberating for one hour and 25 minutes.

At Luton Crown Court, the 52-year-old husband pleaded not guilty to the murder of his wife Naimo Mohamed Moalin, 31, in the early hours of May 22 this year at their home.

The wife had arrived in the UK just three days earlier when she flew into Heathrow Airport and was met by her husband who then drove her to the room where he lived in a multi-occupancy house.

Twenty years minimum: Musdafe Fara Jama

The senior investigating officer in the case, DCI Peter Vigurs, said: "I am grateful to the jury for returning a guilty verdict. The defendant never admitted murdering Naimo and never showed any remorse. In fact he lied to try to protect himself.

"I believe the verdict showed the jury saw through these lies. A murder case is always so sad and they are all very different.

"In this case the awful irony is that as a child Naimo survived the civil war in Somalia, her family fled and was broken up and she had to live as a refugee in Ethiopia.

"Having survived all that, she came to the UK finally hoping for a happier future and within three days of arriving, her husband killed her.

"I know it's been hard for the family, who have been in court every day, to hear the distressing circumstances in which she died and they have handled this with dignity. I thank them for the support they have given to the investigation."

Firm fined £30k after lorry crushed worker to death

AN engineering company was fined £30,000 on Monday after a worker was crushed to death at its premises.

Bryn Evans, 52, from Milton Keynes, was acting as a banksman at Trevett Engineering Limited and was guiding a reversing heavy goods delivery vehicle towards a doorway when he was killed.

As Mr Evans was guiding the lorry into the loading area he became trapped between the back of the vehicle and the building's brick wall. He died at the scene on April 4, 2009, from crush injuries to his chest.

Milton Keynes Crown Court heard on Monday that Mr Evans had not received training as a banksman.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) also showed there was no specific need for a banksman during the reversing process, it had merely become customary at the site.

Trevett Engineering Limited, based in Third Avenue, Denbigh West, Bletchley, pleaded guilty to breaching section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974.

Bryn Evans: Crushed to death as he supervised a reversing lorry

The company was fined £30,000 and ordered to pay costs of £11,630.

HSE Inspector Karl Howes said: "This tragic case illustrates the risks that are associated with deliveries and reversing vehicles.

"It is vital that employers fully assess the risks involved in deliveries to site. A banksman should only be used when there are no safer available methods to control reversing and then only when people have been fully trained to undertake that role."

Council £900,000 worse off

THE council will be £900,000 poorer next year than it had originally feared.

On Monday, the Government outlined how much money each local authority would receive in grants, with the allocation for Milton Keynes equating to nearly £1million less than predicted following October's Comprehensive Spending Review.

This means councillors must now find the extra savings in their provisional budget, which will be presented to cabinet next week before going to public consultation.

MK Council has been hit particularly hard by 'damping', which is utilised to lessen the impact on those authorities deemed less able to cope with the cuts.

As a council considered to be one that will cope well, MK was penalised by £8million less than it would have been granted before damping.

This means a total reduction of £9.901 million from last year's grant, compared to the £9.02 million reduction the council had been modelling for their forthcoming budget.

MK Council finance boss Cllr Sam Crooks explained he did have contingencies to deal with the unexpected loss.

He said: "The budget we have been working on has been done over a four year period, so we can see if we can juggle things around over those years."

But there is some good news, with the capital spending cuts not being as bad as expected, £3million less has been cut from transport, and £2million from education, which will aid the city's eastern expansion.

MK NEWS is proud to be the truly local newspaper for Milton Keynes and the surrounding areas. We provide the most widely read local newspaper for our readers and advertisers and are constantly looking at new ways to improve our service. If you have feedback for us, please contact anyone listed below

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We also deliver an additional 8,000 copies each week into public buildings, offices, industrial areas, bars, restaurants and shops for people to read that may not live locally and receive a copy at home.
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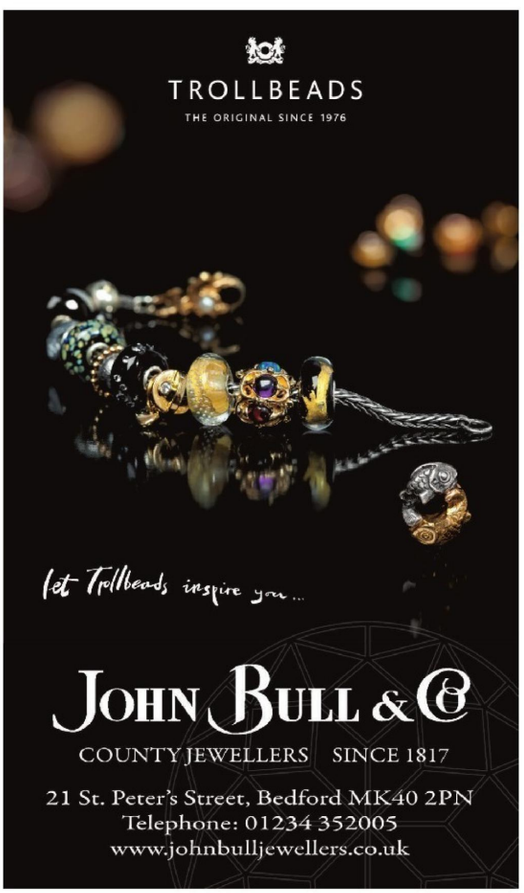

MK LETTERS

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Most Milton Keynes citizens born outside city

SIR – The nature and character of Fenny Stratford was changed most significantly with the building of The Lakes Estate, and the area has continued to change and evolve over the years with the growth of Milton Keynes.

Indeed most people living in Milton Keynes today were born somewhere else.

So how does the BNP define 'local people'?

The Plough was closed some time ago because people had stopped going there in the numbers required to make it a viable business.

Thirty pubs a week are closing across the country due to changes taking place in our society.

This has nothing to do with 'creeping Islamification'.

If the proposals for the mosque are rejected for proper planning considerations such as traffic volumes, parking facilities etc, so be it.

There is one human race and one world for us all to share.

Paul Griffiths
Sent by e-mail

City obsession

SIR – Here we go again. Why the obsession to make MK a city?

How much money and effort has and will be wasted and for what?

MK is a fantastic place to live already. Becoming a city won't make it any better.

Doug Sinclair
Shenley Church End

Tesco saves taxis

SIR – I live in Newport Pagnell, and I think it is a brilliant idea to bring Tesco there.

I am a single mother who does not drive, so it would save me so much money on taxis.

I don't see the harm in bringing Tesco here. Times are changing and it's for the best.

Name and address supplied
Sent by e-mail

Stuff the turkey

SIR – If you want to make your Christmas a festival of goodwill to all living creatures, then please choose a vegetarian Christmas dinner instead of a turkey.

Vegetarian recipe books have many seasonal choices, such as chestnut puree and cranberry sauce in puff pastry, or you can buy a turkey-style vegetarian roast at Holland & Barrett and some branches of Morrisons, Tesco and Waitrose.

What's wrong with eating turkey? Most turkeys are intensively farmed inside large, overcrowded and dirty sheds. The birds suffer from painful degenerative hip disorders.

Ammonia in the urine-soaked litter causes ulcerated feet and hock burns and can burn away their breast feathers. Aggression amongst the stressed birds can lead them to peck each other, causing injuries or even death.

The truth is that most farmed animals, not just turkeys, endure lives of boredom, frustration, physical pain and misery, and so a wonderful New Year's resolution would be to give up meat completely. For a free Guide to a Compassionate Christmas, including recipes, please call Animal Aid on 01732 364546 or visit www.animalaid.org.uk

Thank you.

Richard Mountford
Development manager at Animal Aid

Thanks for volunteering

SIR – A huge thank you goes out to the 70,000 people that took part in this year's Community Service Volunteers (CSV) Make a Difference Day.

On October 30 a record breaking number of people baked pumpkin pies for the elderly, made cupcakes for homeless people, planted bulbs in community parks, knitted hats for premature babies and litter picked in their local high street.

Gordon Brown, David Blunkett and other MPs across the country swapped the floor of Westminster to the shop floor of their local Barnardo's shop.

I spent time with volunteers planting trees and shrubs in preparation for winter.

And there's more to come. Make volunteering your New Year's resolution. Dig out your garden spades and support CSV Action Earth in spring 2011.

The campaign has benefited from support from Morrisons to help thousands of people protect endangered wildlife, clear allotments and create 'green' spaces in the community.

Volunteers up and down the country will be making a positive difference in the local area. Don't wait any longer and sign up for more information today for CSV Action Earth; visit www.csv.org.uk/actionearth

Pete Waterman
CSV Action Earth

Lifeline for blind

SIR – With the cold, icy conditions forecast to continue for the rest of the year Action for Blind People is urging local people to spare a thought for residents with sight loss.

Freezing weather can be a real pain and can cause inconvenience, but for some visually impaired people, it can be dangerous and also mean total isolation.

Many blind and partially sighted people lack confidence getting out and about in good weather, so when frost and ice make pavements slippery, many feel unable to venture out of their front doors trapped in their own homes.

At Action for Blind People, we're encouraging everyone who knows a blind or partially sighted person to check if they need any help.

Our top tips are to:

- Contact visually impaired neighbours to make sure they're okay
- Clear their path of ice and snow
- Offer to drive them to and from their place of work
- Do their food shopping, so they're stocked up with supplies
- Offer to walk with them, guiding them around icy and slippery surfaces

Your help will be a real lifeline to people with sight loss.

www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk

Colin Brown
Head of London and south east England region for Action for Blind People

Seatbelt slip

SIR – All the images I have seen of Prince Charles and Camilla seem to indicate that neither were wearing seatbelts in the back of the Rolls Royce which got caught up in the recent London riots.

If this is the case, it is sad that Prince Charles has learned nothing from the tragic road accident which killed his first wife and of which the sole survivor was the only person involved to wear a seatbelt.

I trust that the Metropolitan Police will take a few moments off from their pursuit of those who damaged the vehicle and demonstrate – by bringing criminal charges if justified by the facts – that our future king and his wife are not above the law - it is what Diana would have wanted.

John Eoin Douglas
Sent by e-mail

Breast cancer support

SIR – As we near the end of the year and I celebrate my tenth anniversary as Patron of Breast Cancer Care, it gives me a chance to reflect on the incredible work I have seen from our volunteers across the UK. It makes me feel very privileged to be a part of this fantastic charity.

Breast Cancer Care is the leading UK support charity for people with this devastating disease and has a great support network across Britain.

Our 500 volunteers do amazing work in offering emotional support to people diagnosed and spreading the breast aware message.

And of course there are thousands of inspirational fundraisers, whose generosity allows Breast Cancer Care to offer all of its services free of charge.

For example, so far this year our free helpline has taken almost 13,000 calls from people looking to us for support and information.

This year we became the first UK charity to mark Secondary Breast Cancer Awareness Day, which recognised all those living with incurable breast cancer something that had never been done in the UK before and that shows our commitment to supporting everyone affected by the disease, at every stage.

More than 46,000 people every year are given the crushing news they have breast cancer.

Those 46,000 people are parents, siblings, partners, friends or colleagues it seems like we all know someone whose life has been affected by breast cancer. I know what a difference the charity makes to people going through this life-changing diagnosis.

Breast Cancer Care promises to be there every step of the way for anyone diagnosed with, or affected by, breast cancer.

Geri Halliwell
Patron of Breast Cancer Care

TELL US YOUR VIEWS

DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE with the stories in the paper or have you a view on an MK subject you want heard?

Letters must arrive by noon on Monday, include your full name and address and should be kept short, to the point and may be edited.

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Milton Keynes Mayor Debbie Brock congratulates Red Bull Racing Team Principal Christian Horner on winning both this year's F1 World Drivers' and Constructors' Championship, at the Red Bull Racing Factory, based at Tilbrook Industrial Estate, yesterday.

Police release 'fifth man' in Adil Basharat death inquiry

A FIFTH man arrested in connection with the death of Adil Basharat has been released on bail pending further enquiries.

The 19-year-old is due to report back to police next month.

Adil, 16, died as a result of a single stab wound he received during an assault in Stratford Road, Deanshanger, on November 19.

Anybody with information about the circumstances leading up to the assault should contact Northamptonshire Police on 03000 111 222 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Four men, one aged 21, the other three aged 19, have been charged in connection with the death and have been remanded into custody.

MP gets review of school admissions

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

THE Government has pledged to review school admissions after a city MP described the problems in Milton Keynes.

As MK NEWS reported in October, scores of children were left without a school place nearly two months after term started after applying 'in-year' – those made since the beginning of the school year, usually by families moving into the area.

Before September, parents could apply to schools directly for in-year applications, but new Government legislation meant the responsibility for co-ordinating admissions for all schools fell to the local authority.

Since the introduction of the legislation, MPs and councillors in the area received an increased number of complaints from parents worried their child was still not in school.

In Parliament on Monday night, Mark Lancaster raised the issue with Nick Gibb, Minister of State for Education, saying: "In Milton Keynes, schools admissions has gained renewed controversy since changes were made to the allocation process.

"The previous Government said that those changes would ensure fairness, but combined with other factors, they have had the unintended consequence of leaving scores of children out of education or having to travel miles across the city to get to school.

"The delays and distances endured by many of my young constituents are simply not fair.

"Since September, I have been inundated with complaints from parents about delays in the process, as well as about what has been offered. Children are now sitting at home for weeks while the council finds them a place, and then further weeks for the school to induct them."

Following his speech, Mr Lancaster managed to secure a pledge from Mr Gibb that the process would be reviewed.

Mr Gibb said: "Admissions processes are an imprecise science, but having heard from my honourable friend and having received representations from admissions authorities and members of the public, I am convinced that we have to look again at this issue.

"It will be considered as part of the review and the simplification of the admissions code that we are currently undertaking."

'Disgust' at infant-primary merger

A 'GOOD' school will merge with a school in 'special measures', should plans go ahead.

Moorland Infant School, Beanhill, has put forward a public consultation document proposing a merger with New Chapter Primary in Coffee Hall.

But Karen Coombs, 40, a parent governor at Moorland, is objecting to the plans.

She has one child at each school and became a governor only three weeks ago – hoping to put more weight behind her objection.

She said: "Beanhill recently got a lot of bad press as a 'basement' estate. The school we have here is something the community holds very dear. It gives us something to be proud of.

"New Chapter has got a lot of problems and by merging, Moorland will be lost and the children will have the same standard of education as at New Chapter.

"The merger will cost around £1.8million – nowhere near enough to do it effectively. I would much rather see the money spent on improving the standards at New Chapter. I think it's disgusting. Why would the council want to deprive Beanhill – a depressed estate already – of Moorland?"

A council spokesman said: "Amalgamating the schools offers the opportunity to build on best practice at both schools to improve outcomes for children and secure the long term future for local children."

The headteachers at Moorland and New Chapter refused to comment.

The final decision will be made in February next year.

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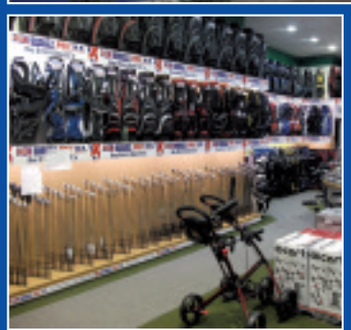

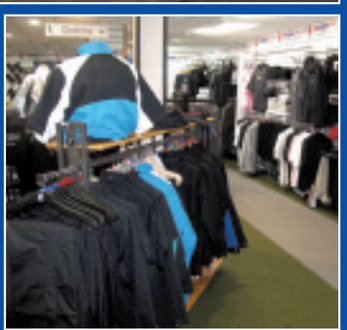

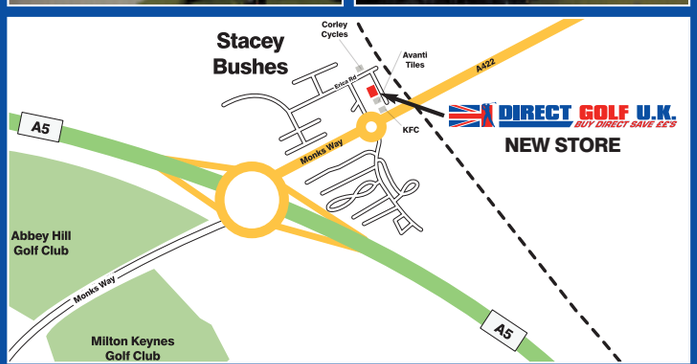

Tel: 01908 579808

e: miltonkeynes@direct-golf.co.uk

25 Stacey Bushes, Erica Rd, Milton Keynes, MK12 6HS

From North: From M1 J15 take 4th exit onto A508. At roundabout take 1st exit onto A5. At first roundabout take 2nd exit. At next roundabout take 2nd exit onto Erica Road, store is located on right hand side next to KFC.

From South: Leave M1 at J14, take 3rd exit onto A509. At roundabout take 1st exit onto A422. Stay on A422 until sign posted 'Stacey Bushes Industry', at roundabout take 3rd exit onto Erica Road. Store is on right next to KFC.

Nuisance groups of two or more to be shifted

‘Move along now’ – cops given new dispersal powers

BY KIRSTEN RAWLINS
kirsten.rawlins@mk-news.co.uk

FOUR estates will be subject to a dispersal order obtained by the police and the council.

Fishermead, Oldbrook, Leadenhall and Coffee Hall will all be covered by the order which goes live on Monday and will be in force until March 20.

The dispersal order, which gives police powers under Part Four of the Antisocial Behaviour Act 2003, will allow police and PCSOs to move groups of two or more people, who are causing a nuisance, away from the dispersal area and prevent them from returning for 24 hours.

Officers will also be able to return home anyone under the age of 16, or take them to a suitable place of safety, if they are found within the designated area between 9pm and 6am unsupervised by an appropriate adult and behaving in an antisocial manner.

The use of the dispersal order is in response to small groups on the estates who are blighting the lives of local residents.

Complaints from residents, shoppers and businesses have been growing resulting in a general feeling of concern within the community.

Inspector Colleen Lavery, neighbourhood inspector for the south of the city, said: “It is hoped the dispersal order will enable us to target the small minority of individuals who cause the problems.

“The legislation will allow us to deal robustly with those responsible and deter those who are on the periphery of the activity.

“We realise this is not going to be solved overnight but feel we are putting the building blocks in place to strengthen the community in the long term.”

Wreathed in smiles at workshop

Happy holly-day: One of the wreaths from the Parks Trust workshop
Picture by Sara Lethbridge

IT was secateurs at the ready in Campbell Park as The Parks Trust got into festive spirit when they held their annual Christmas wreath workshop on Sunday.

The band of wreath makers were helped by park rangers and trust volunteers as they collected goodies from around the sensory garden in the park.

Along with collecting the traditional holly and ivy the group cut dogwood, elm, cotton lavender and teasles along with other bright plants before heading to the pavilion to put together their finds.

After a few minutes instruction Christmas wreaths began to take shape and, despite most people using the same foliage, each wreath took a unique shape and all headed home to hang them on their doors.

Landlord collected housing benefit of deceased tenant

A LANDLORD has pleaded guilty to benefit fraud after he received more than £3,000 of housing benefits for a dead tenant.

Sundramoorthy Kanesathasan, of North Street, Leighton Buzzard, was arrested and brought to Luton Magistrates’ Court, on December 2.

He had previously ignored invitations by Central Bedfordshire Council to attend interviews, under caution, about the matter and then failed to attend an earlier court hearing.

During the hearing Kanesathasan pleaded guilty to accepting payments of his tenant’s housing benefit, even though he was aware his tenant had died.

The terms of Mr Kanesathasan’s sentence require him to pay £3,347.41 compensation to Central Bedfordshire Council, pay £200 towards investigation and prosecution costs, and to serve a community order for the period of one year with a requirement to do 200 hours of unpaid work over this period.

Cllr Maurice Jones, portfolio holder for finance, governance and people, said: “Claiming benefits when you are not eligible to receive them is against the law. It diverts much needed support to those that need it and puts extra financial pressures onto the council.

“We will do all we can to make sure that anyone found to be claiming benefits illegally is punished appropriately.”

The investigation resulted from a Housing Benefit Service data match, which identified that a tenant of Mr Kanesathasan had died on August 13, 2008.

Housing benefit was legitimately paid to Mr Kanesathasan prior to this date, but he failed to notify the authority when his tenant passed away.

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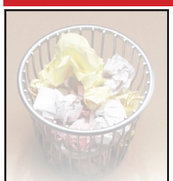
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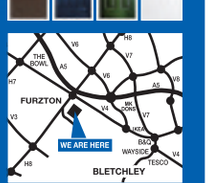

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Patients' concern over doctors' time

A CITY MP is striving to ensure doctors continue to devote their time to treating patients while controlling the city's health budget.

Milton Keynes North MP, Mark Lancaster, quizzed the health secretary over how the two consortia, GP Healthcare MK and Premier MK, will continue to provide medical care while monitoring the budget.

He wrote to every surgery in Milton Keynes North asking for the views on the plans to scrap the bureaucracy of the Primary Care Trusts and Strategic Health Authorities, and met with many of their GPs and patients.

During health questions in the House of Commons on December 7, Mr Lancaster said: "One area of concern that has been raised with me, by patients in particular, is the amount of time that they will get to spend face-to-face with their GP."

Secretary of State Andrew Lansley MP responded that there is no intention to turn GPs into managers.

But it will be their choice whom to employ for administrative support either from the existing PCT, from local authorities or from the private sector.

Mr Lancaster, who made health his priority before the general election, said: "Over the last few months, doctors, nurses, staff and patients in my constituency have broadly welcomed the removal of the overly-bureaucratic aspects of the NHS.

"I think we all agree that those who know where the money is best spent are those on the front line.

"But there is one concern – will GPs continue to be able to devote their time to patients?

"I am assured by the Secretary of State that they will."

MP Mark Lancaster with his 'mobile surgery': He raised concerns that GPs will still be able to devote time to patients while running the NHS locally

Grants boost to rural business

THREE businesses in rural Milton Keynes have been awarded grants to expand into the community.

The LEADER grant is available to farmers, rural businesses and community groups to enable them to strengthen their support for the local economy, with up to £50,000 available.

The St Lawrence Church Rooms in Winslow are being extended to offer more event room and space for historic archives with a £50,000 grant.

Happy Herefords in Newton Blossomville produce beef from pedigree Hereford cattle, and a grant of £36,000 will buy new equipment and machinery.

Town Farm in Ivinghoe also received £25,000 to diversify into tourism, by building campsite facilities which now include a solar-heated water system, shower blocks, toilets and a games room.

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Coachway open for business

THE long-delayed Coachway at Junction 14 was opened on Saturday morning.

The new depot was originally due to open in January 2009, but the date was pushed back several times due to reasons including shortfalls in funding, drainage problems and legal contract negotiations.

The Brook Furlong building features a roof canopy, giving a covered external seating area for passengers, in addition to a new indoor heated waiting area with customer information screens, a cafe, shop and ticket office.

It will have staffed, 24-hour security and a CCTV-covered parking area with 350 spaces, and will be used by National Express coaches, buses and taxis, and offers a park-and-ride service.

The original Coachway was demolished in early 2008, with the new £2.6million build due to be completed in early 2009, but a shortfall in funding delayed the construction to spring 2010.

Then 'additional drainage investigation', contract wrangles and bad weather further delayed the opening. Milton Keynes Council finally handed the project over to the Homes and Communities Agency in September for the final fit-out.

Marcia Gomez and Sonya Hawkins welcome Joel Montague to the Cotels apartment where he is staying during the panto run

Dick Whittington star Joel is loving living in the city

DICK Whittington star Joel Montague has been busy preparing for his role in this year's panto, but with all the rehearsals, he has had little time to appreciate MK.

Joel told MKNEWS of his love for the city and how he plans to make the most of his stay.

He said: "I love Milton Keynes, and the shopping centre's massive. I'm so annoyed that I've not really been able to visit it yet.

"There's so many nice bars and restaurants around here too. And it's great where I'm staying because not only is the apartment really, really nice, it's such a short distance away from all these places I can just walk to them all.

"We've been going to that Friday's restaurant – we really like it there. And we are definitely going to that buffet in the Theatre District as well – that place looks amazing.

"Best of all, the apartment's so close to work that I can pretty much just jump in the shower and go – obviously not without getting dressed first."

Joel is currently staying in the Theatre District in a Cotels Simply apartment.

He added: "At the moment it's just been solid work, I haven't even had time to do any cooking or anything.

"But at least my apartment's nice – I could literally just stay here. It's always so clean and tidy. It's like living in a hotel, but in your own apartment.

"I am planning to go home to Crewe for Christmas, but the dancers all want me to have a party here – they all love my place.

"Maybe I'll have a party for New Year."

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Try a festive trip to an

With Christmas just around the corner, it's a time when many people want to go away with their loved ones. MK NEWS reporter KIRSTEN RAWLINS visited Chester to discover what the city can offer for those looking to celebrate the festivities

CHESTER is an English gem, and the perfect destination for a Christmas break.

Merely an hour-and-a-half away from MK on a direct Virgin train route, the city is teeming with English heritage and is ideal for those looking for a festive weekend away, with sights and attractions for all to enjoy, and a Christmas shopping experience beyond compare.

I visited Chester for the first time last weekend to see what it had to offer at Christmas time, and was left overwhelmed by just how underrated the destination actually is.

During our time in Chester we stayed at a quaint five-star bed and breakfast tucked away down a quiet side street, just ten minutes walk from the centre.

The Chester Stone Villa, Hoole Road, is beautifully presented as a cottage-like building with spacious rooms and excellent, attentive service.

And after a good night's sleep and a hearty breakfast, we were well set to explore Chester.

We began by taking a stroll into the city and upon reaching the centre, were greeted by the sounds of choirs and street entertainers.

Chester boasts a variety of beautiful architecture, ranging from the Roman amphitheatre to the ruins of churches from the middle ages, and the high street is no exception with its black and white timber shops and pubs.

But the primary attraction for me, and one I would happily return for time and time again, was the shopping experience that is Cheshire Oaks Designer Outlet.

The centre has a massive range of designers, all at high street prices – I thought I had died and gone to heaven.

Cheshire Oaks is a fantastic opportunity this time of year to get extra-special presents for your loved ones, or that perfect outfit for festive parties, without leaving a dent in your credit card.

Second to this was our trip to Chester Zoo, the best part of which was the Fruit Bat Forest - an indoor cave-like room where the bats roam free.

The cheeky blighters flew into us a few times and sat on our heads, so for those of a nervous disposition, I wouldn't recommend it. But we loved them. This

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English gem – on ice

experience, combined with a visit to the baby elephant and the resident komodo dragon, made the day memorable.

On that note, we also enjoyed an eerie ghost tour around the city where we heard history and folklore about Chester's architecture and sights.

One myth told of a Roman soldier whose job it was to guard a corner of the city walls.

When betrayed by his Celtic lover, he fell from the city wall onto his own sword.

Another told the tale of a Catholic priest persecuted during the reign of Bloody Mary, who was imprisoned in a room high up in what was the abbey.

Up until January 3, Chester also has its very own Christmas Market – a German-style Weihnachtsmarkt with a variety of stalls and a big wheel. There is also an ice rink, at which I happily clung to the side, pointing and laughing at my friend's attempts to skate. All in good fun, of course.

Following our attempts to ice skate, we decided it was time to do something we are both good at, and visited The Olde King's Head pub for a tipple or two, and were very impressed by the night's entertainment - a young Irish singer who, it seemed, was able to sing pretty much anything.

The pub's atmosphere was also incredibly friendly and the beer fantastic.

There is also a tale about this pub which claims a young man haunts a room upstairs, after having an affair with the landlord's wife and dying in a duel.

Haunted or not, this pub was a hidden treasure we were glad to have found.

Chester has a magical atmosphere able to capture those of any age, the feel of which is amplified at Christmas time.

The only negative comment I would make is that I regret not having visited it sooner, and that the weekend I spent there passed far too quickly.

But not to worry, I shall soon be returning - after all, it wasn't possible to do everything on offer in one weekend, and there's much more shopping to be done.

For those looking for a family treat, or even a romantic weekend away, Chester is definitely up there with the best destinations in the UK.

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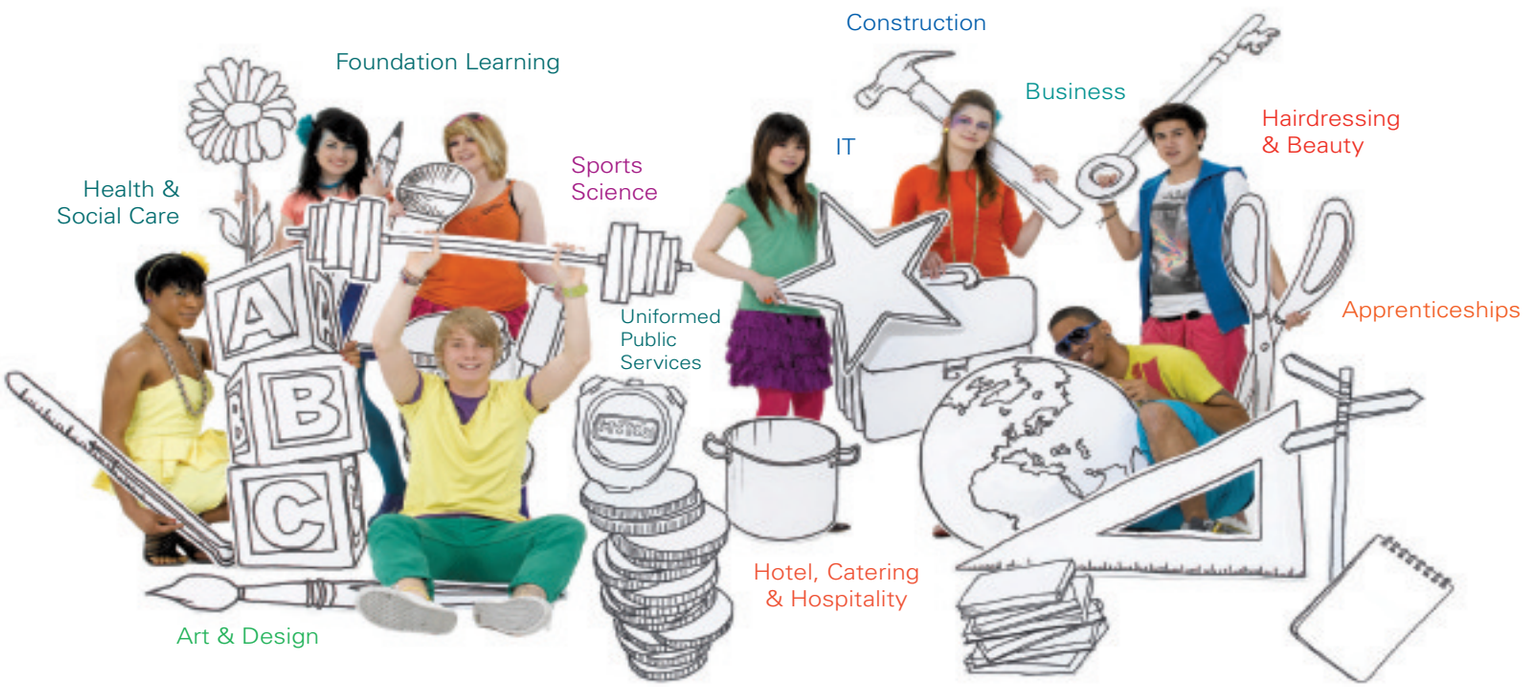

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Part-time students to get full loan support

SUPPORT for part-time students is to be improved, delighting the city's two MPs.

The Government's plans for higher education already contained such benefits for part-time students as eligibility for the same support as full-time students.

But the definition of a part-time course - one-third of the 'intensity' of a full-time course - was contentious, with the point being raised by Milton Keynes South MP Iain Stewart in a Parliamentary debate.

David Willetts, Minister for Universities and Science, said he would look into it.

Then on December 8, Government announced all eligible part-time undergraduate students studying for at least 25 per cent of their time will qualify for full loan support for their tuition costs, meaning they will no longer have to pay up-front fees.

Mr Stewart said: "I am delighted the Government has taken on board the concerns expressed about the definition of part-time courses. This announcement will be a huge benefit to the Open University (OU) and the 25,000 students affected."

Milton Keynes North MP Mark Lancaster added: "I am delighted that the Government has decided to introduce more flexibility to part-time study.

"It is something constituents have contacted me about and I wrote to the Minister in October about the issue.

"This is really encouraging for all those people who juggle families, jobs and other commitments alongside their studies. We should do all we can to support the city's great asset, the OU."

Woman charged after rape claim

A WOMAN has been charged with perverting the course of justice in connection with a false rape allegation.

Zoe Grimbley, aged 25, from Chapel Brampton, was charged with perverting the course of justice at Milton Keynes Police Station on December 6.

The charge is in connection with an allegation of rape at a house in Newport Pagnell between November 13 and 14.

She is due to appear at Milton Keynes Magistrates' Court on December 22.

Lego theft led to drugs charge

A MAN has been charged with the theft of Lego and drug dealing offences.

Christopher Walker, 41, of Campbell Park, was charged with theft from a shop and possession with intent to supply class A drugs.

He was remanded in custody and is due to appear at Milton Keynes Magistrates' Court at a later date.

The charges are in connection with the theft of Lego worth £98 from the Lego Store in thecentre:mk on December 7 and the recovery of 30 wraps of heroin.

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Children's services are getting better

THE city's children's services are 'performing well', says Ofsted.

The rating, published last Thursday, makes MK Council one of the top four fastest improving authorities in the country for children's services.

In its report, Ofsted highlights the 'sustained improvement' that is being made across Milton Keynes.

Children's services have moved rapidly from 'performs poorly' to 'performs well' which is the second highest rating.

News of the official assessment follows the recent announcement that the Improvement Board put in place by the Government to oversee performance in June 2009 is no longer needed. Cllr Rosemary Drewett, responsible for children's services, said: "The continued improvement that has been recognised by Ofsted is tremendous news. We will continue to champion parents' and children's interests and to challenge and support services and settings to improve."

Director of children and young people's services, Gail Tolley, said: "I am delighted that Ofsted has recognised the progress we have made.

"A number of important areas for development are identified by Ofsted which we are already addressing as part of our ambition to be outstanding."

'Delighted: Gail Tolley

Takeaway delivery hold-up

A DELIVERY man was held at knifepoint by a gang of seven or eight men.

The incident happened between 8-9pm on December 6 as the takeaway delivery man arrived in Brearley Avenue, Oldbrook to deliver an order.

As the victim got out of his vehicle, he was approached by a group of seven or eight men, all dressed in black with their faces covered.

The victim was threatened with a knife and told to hand over the food and his mobile phone. One of the offenders then assaulted him and took his wallet.

The offender with the knife is black, in his late teens to early twenties, slim, 5ft 5ins and was wearing a black jacket, black gloves and a black hat.

If you have any information, contact DC Hacker via the 24-hour non-emergency number, 0845 8 505 505 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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8,000 children see centre:mk's Santa

THE centre:mk's Christmas extravaganza has seen a record number of visitors to date.

Since the launch three weeks ago, Santa has welcomed more than 8,000 children into his grotto and the Christmas Storyland Adventure has seen more than 700,000 people pass through its wishing pool, jump on the interactive stars under the 35ft Christmas tree and experience the icy crystal forest with its magical virtual wish fairy.

Santa said: "It was wonderful to see so many happy faces over the weekend. All good girls and boys, who knew just what they wanted for Christmas.

"As a treat, we have given lots of traditional gifts to the children, but also our eco-friendly Christmas tree saplings have been an incredibly popular choice.

"This showed me that the children of Milton Keynes want to look after the environment by planting their very own Christmas tree in their garden."

Santa's grotto closes on December 24 at 1pm and the Christmas Storyland Adventure closes on December 29.

To visit Santa at thecentre:mk, go online at www.thecentremk.com Tickets are £3.50 per child and include a gift appropriate to age and gender

IKEA shoppers in for pleasant surprise

YOUNG people from around the city will be performing pieces they have learnt from a two-year project funded by Children In Need.

The youngsters have been working with Inter-Action MK, taking part in GRID – a performing arts project which provides the opportunities for disabled and non disabled young people to come together in joint creative activity. Weekly workshops at Stantonbury Campus involved dance, drama and music and enabled the young people to develop new skills, increase confidence and make new friends.

To celebrate, the young people will be performing short pieces of work in the Bletchley IKEA store today and tomorrow between 6-8pm when a series of surprise musical happenings will take place in different areas of the store to entertain shoppers.

Liz Gilbert of Inter-Action MK, said: "The project has been brilliant fun and the young people are very excited about performing in such a unique venue."

For more information visit www.interactionmk.org.uk

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Police hunt for flasher

POLICE want to speak to this man in connection with an indecent exposure involving a 13-year-old girl.

The incident happened on November 29 at around 7.45am as the victim was waiting for the school bus in Overstreet, Downs Barn.

The offender, who approached her and exposed himself, is white, about 40-years-old, 5ft 8in, chubby and clean shaven.

He was wearing a dark coloured beanie-type fleece hat, dark and cream hooped woollen jumper and black baggy track trousers. He had light ginger hair sticking out from under his hat.

If you have any information contact PC Andy Perry on 0845 8 505 505 or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

Shops in the clear on bootleg booze

THE city's Trading Standards officers recently took part in a regional survey of retailers selling alcohol to the public.

While the survey revealed that 20 per cent of retail premises inspected in the south east of England were found to be selling spirits or wines that were either counterfeit, had no duty paid or had incorrect origin labelling, reassuringly the traders checked in Milton Keynes during the project were found to be compliant.

Karen Ford, head of trading standards, said: "Illicit alcohol is likely to be poor quality, and may contain unsafe ingredients which can cause blindness and, in some cases, death. Shops which sell illegal alcohol also harm legitimate business.

"Our message to retailers is that should be careful where they buy their goods and especially to avoid itinerant sellers who turn up unannounced with a van full of stock.

"Anyone found selling illicit alcohol will not just end up in trouble with trading standards but also Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs for tax evasion."

Cllr Mike Galloway, responsible for regulatory services, said: "Milton Keynes Council wants to ensure that revellers are protected from the dangers of illegal alcohol both in the festive season and beyond.

"The consequences for any trader tempted to make a quick buck by selling illegal alcohol are likely to be very serious."

New jobs and free pizzas

A PIZZA parlour is giving away 100 free pizzas to celebrate the opening of its store.

Papa John's, in Bletchley, which has created 15 jobs following a £250,000 investment, opened on Chandos Place, on the Brunel roundabout, earlier this month and is giving people the chance to taste their pizzas on Friday from noon.

Franchise owner Siddique Bokhari said: "I'm looking forward to giving away 100 pizzas to the people of Bletchley to celebrate the opening of our new store. I'm also looking to recruit ten more delivery drivers, so anyone interested in applying should call the store or come in.

"Papa John's is famous for its 'better ingredients, better pizza' philosophy and our 100 per cent fresh dough pizzas are already proving popular with people in the area.

"We opened another store in Newport Pagnell last month and are on course to open an outlet in Oldbrook in the New Year."

Papa John's has more than 140 restaurants across the UK and has achieved 19 consecutive quarters of comparative sales growth, with a two-year sales growth of 23.3 per cent.

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Festive shoppers get wheel clamp warning

THE council is warning Christmas shoppers not to get clamped this Christmas.

Milton Keynes Council's Trading Standards department is advising residents and visitors to look carefully at the signs when entering a car park.

Car parking in Milton Keynes should be a straightforward event but among the myriad of parking schemes, it can be easy to fall into the trap of parking in a prohibited place and finding that your car has been immobilised with a wheel clamp, or worse still, towed away.

Trading standards explains that, currently, any individual involved in the wheel clamping industry must hold a

front-line licence from the Security Industry Authority (SIA), with supervisors or directors holding a non-front-line licence.

Karen Ford, head of trading standards, said: "Unfortunately there are some rogue and unscrupulous car clampers taking advantage of the unsuspecting public, with reports being received of motorists being intimidated or forced to pay excessive fines, or having their car towed away unfairly.

"Fortunately, the Government is committed to ending the menace of rogue private sector wheel-clampers and once pending legislation is in place next February, anyone who clamps a vehicle or tows it away on private land will face tough penalties."

Until then, trading standards offers the following advice:

■ Don't assume that a car park is for public use even if it appears be

■ Check the signs and notices to make sure you are not about to park in a prohibited place

■ Look to see if there is a maximum time limit for parking in the car park

■ If you use the same car park time and time again, check for new signs and notices about parking restrictions

Cllr Mike Galloway, responsible for trading standards, said: "If you are parking on land owned by Milton Keynes Council, you will not be wheel clamped but issued a fixed penalty notice.

"Private landowners tend to use wheel clamping companies which charge extremely high rates to remove the clamps – so be very careful where you park and make sure you pay the required tariffs."

Banging the drum for Music Service lessons

MK Music Service is offering the perfect Christmas gift with a difference.

The team is running lessons in unique Indian drums known as tabla. The service claims the lessons are ideal for anyone who is a drummer or percussionist looking for fresh challenge.

Tabla is taught by drum tutor Pete Hemsley who has studied with Pete Lockett, a world-renowned tabla master.

Music Service head David Rose said: "Tabla opens up a fascinating world of rhythm and introduces a unique sound which will capture the imagination of any drummer or world music fan."

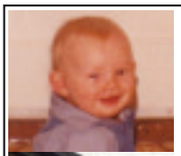
Instruments can be provided for use during the lessons.

A tuition package of ten 30-minute lessons per term costs £170 for individual lessons or £85 each per term for a group of two people.

For further information contact Milton Keynes Music Service on 0845 200 0096.

MKANNOUNCEMENTS

Birthdays



TERRY

Happy 30th

Lots of love, All the family xx

Happy 18th Birthday
ALESSIA COLOZZA
for 14th December 2010

Lots of love Mum, Claudia, Mark, Daddo & Tilly xx

In Memoriam

PAUL RICHARD KING
14th December 2008.
Two years on.
Missed so very much.
Loved always and forever.
Mum, Dad, Mark, Mandy, Sian & Kyle

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There's an easier way to help someone switch to digital TV. Get them to call the Help Scheme.

Switching someone to digital can be relatively straightforward. But it can involve coming back to re-tune twice and in some cases replacing the aerial. If you really want to help someone switch, the best way may be to recommend the Switchover Help Scheme.

We can provide anyone aged 75 and over or eligible disabled with:

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Tell them to call us free on **0800 40 85 900**

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Your Guide to what's on TV this Christmas...brought to you by MKNEWS

TVguide2010

Special Christmas Issue

Your guide to what's happening in Milton Keynes this festive season

- **Christmas competition, your chance to win a fantastic prize**
- **Christmas fun page**
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TVguide2010 brought to you by MKNEWS

WITH a whole sackful of Christmas goodies on the telly this year, MK NEWS has looked over the feast that's on the box and come up with six of the best. Plus a quick guide to some of the films to look out for over the crammed packed festive TV season

THE NATIVITY

Starts Monday, December 20

TATIANA Maslany and Andrew Buchan star as Mary and Joseph in Tony Jordan's adaptation of The Nativity.

Over four half-hour episodes the drama tells the traditional tale known to millions from a very human perspective.

With Mary and Joseph's enduring love story taking centre stage, this familiar tale is given a contemporary twist, as the drama follows them from their initial courtship, with Joseph desperate to win the heart of Mary, to his emotional turmoil at her unexpected pregnancy.

This gripping and vibrant adaptation shows the Nativity from a fresh viewpoint, highlighting how seemingly ordinary people reacted to the extraordinary and miraculous events that befell them.

Rich in colour and humour, the remarkable events that led up to Jesus's birth will unfold across the four nights, from the epic journey of the wise men to the poignant tale of Thomas a poor shepherd whose waning faith in God is revived as he kneels beside the crib of the newborn king.

Jordan's Nativity is a spectacular Christmas treat for the whole family.

DOCTOR WHO A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Christmas Eve

THE thrilling adventures of the Eleventh Doctor (Matt Smith) and newlyweds Amy Pond (Karen Gillan) and Rory Williams (Arthur Darvill) will continue in a fun-filled and heartfelt festive Doctor Who story.

In the grand tradition of Doctor Who Christmas specials, this year the show has once again attracted stellar guest stars, as veteran actor Michael Gambon (Harry Potter, The Singing Detective) and Opera diva Katherine Jenkins, in her first acting role, join the Time Lord for what might be his most Christmassy adventure yet.

It's the deepest part of winter, Amy and Rory are trapped on a stricken space liner that's plummeting through banks of thick icy fog to the surface of the planet below.

Only one man has the power to save them; only one man is in possession of a machine that can clear the fog and let them land safely.

That man is Kazran Sardick, a rich but lonely old miser who rules Sardicktown with a sky-mast of iron.

The Doctor's only chance of rescuing the ship's 4,000 passengers is to save Kazran's soul and show him that life is worth living.

But can the Doctor put a song in Kazran's heart and love in his life, in time for Christmas?

THE SANTA FILES WITH JOHN SARGEANT

Christmas Eve

EVERYONE loves Santa Claus but not many people know the real story behind the myths and traditions.

Journalist and celebrity dancer John Sergeant goes on a mission around the world to uncover the truth about the jovial old chap who is so vital to the Christmas festivities.

John crosses the globe from Turkey to Scandinavia and on to New York as he seeks to unravel the many stories behind the legend of the man in red. On the way, he finds one of the greatest tales ever told.

He discovers that Santa, the man who is the face of the holiday season, is lucky to be here at all.

The story takes many twists and turns, and begins in the fourth century, in a part of ancient Greece which is now Turkey.

Somehow the story moves north to the colder climes of Lapland - and finishes, rather strangely, in the USA.

Along his journey, intrepid reporter John gets to go to Santa School, where he learns some all-important skills, including climbing a chimney despite having a sizeable waistband.

PAUL O'GRADY'S CHRISTMAS

Christmas Eve

PAUL O'Grady returns on Christmas Eve for a bumper festive edition of his entertainment show, which will bring viewers the very best of international and homegrown talent.

Joining him on the show is one of the world's biggest musical stars - the divine Bette Midler, who will be talking about her career and giving a special performance.

Paul also talks to British singing legend Cilla Black.

He and Cilla are old pals and they will be getting into the Christmas spirit by performing a routine together.

Moving to the world of sport, Paul welcomes boxing ace David Haye who is currently the WBA World Heavyweight Champion and will be sure to have some fascinating stories to tell from his career.

Finally, in a treat for soap fans, Paul chats to Emmerdale actor Danny Miller (aka Aaron Livesy) about his time on the Dales.

Paul plays out the show with a special Christmas grand finale in which his very own big band accompanies recording stars The Soldiers.

ALL STAR FAMILY FORTUNES CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Christmas Day

VERNON Kay presents a seasonal version of the star-studded game show.

Celebrating the holiday season with him are familiar faces from This Morning and members of the cast of Emmerdale.

The teams will be battling it out to win big money for their chosen charities with around £30,000 up for grabs, so there is everything to play for.

Presenter Ruth Langsford heads up the This Morning team and she is joined by style guru Jason Gardiner, Paul Ross, Alison Hammond and soap queen Sharon Marshall.

Their Emmerdale opponents are led by Chris Chittell (aka Eric Pollard), Chris's team is made up of Charlie Hardwicke (Val Pollard), Matthew Wolfenden (David Metcalfe), Rokhsanah Ghawam-Shahidi (Leyla Harding) and Natalie Anderson (Alicia Gallagher).

Who will triumph in this festive fight to the finish?

JUST WILLIAM

Starts Tuesday December, 28

DANIEL Roche stars as the mischievous Just William in Simon Nye's new adaptation for the BBC.

Taking Crompton's timeless short stories and setting them in the Fifties, Simon has written scripts faithful to her precise portrait of British family life.

When the Bott family move into Croombe Hall, William and his gang, The Outlaws, are horrified to find themselves banned from playing in the woods. But the worst is yet to come, in the form of the frilly yet formidable Violet Elizabeth Bott.

As his brother Robert, inspired by Marlon Brando's Wild One, tries and fails miserably to romance the local ladies, William and pals Ginger, Douglas and Henry find Violet Elizabeth hard to shake off until a game of Red Indians, a thrilling chase and a very muddy bog give the boys the chance to get even with the idiotic Mr Bott.

First of four episodes broadcast over the next four days.

Andy Handley

FESTIVE FILMS ON THE BOX.

THIS season promises a huge array of fantastic films to entertain the whole family, including premieres, action-packed blockbusters, hilarious comedies and thought-provoking dramas.

The schedules are jam-packed with movies which will appeal to everyone so in no particular order look out for these festive treats.

Old favourites Santa Claus The Movie (Christmas Day, ITV1), Miracle on 34th Street (Christmas Eve, ITV1) and The Polar Express(Christmas Day, ITV1), A Christmas Carol (Christmas Eve, Channel 4) a remake based on a 1994 musical adaptation of the Dickens' classic, Arthur Allan Seidelman cast Kelsey Grammer as Scrooge and Hollywood babe Jennifer Love Hewitt as Emily.

Superstars like Jim Carrey in the Dr Seuss adaptation The Grinch (Christmas Day, ITV1) are on show, while Michael Keaton appears in a new take on an old story in family drama Jack Frost (Boxing Day, ITV1). Sparks fly between Cameron Diaz and Jude Law and between Kate Winslet and Jack Black in a romantic comedy The Holiday (Christmas Eve, ITV1).

For the family, there are some must-see movies, including the network premiere of The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (Boxing Day, ITV1), Indiana Jones And The Kingdom Of The Crystal Skull (BBC1) where Harrison Ford returns as everyone's favourite whip-cracking treasure hunter.

WALL-E (BBC) It's cute, on a galactic scale, as a small waste-collecting robot falls in love with a reconnaissance drone called Eve. There's no need to expand on the plot, you will spill salty tears all over your mince pies.

Chronicles Of Narnia 2 Prince Caspian (Christmas Eve, BBC1) The Pevensie foursome get back amongst it in Narnia as they help Prince Caspian battle his evil father. Stars Ben Barnes, Georgie Henley, Skandar Keynes, William Moseley and Anna Popplewell.

Penguin fans have a real treat in store with both acclaimed documentary March of the Penguins (Monday, December 27, ITV1) followed by the engaging animation Happy Feet, which follows the adventures of a dancing penguin and features the voices of Robin Williams and Nicole Kidman.

For more light-hearted thrills to see in the new year try Tim Burton's hilarious Mars Attacks! (New Year's Eve, ITV1).

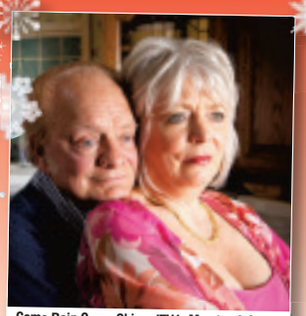
So whatever takes your fancy get in the popcorn and snuggle down for a Christmas full of fun on the telly.

YOUR 15-DAY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR TV GUIDE

Christmas with Gordon, Channel 4 Wednesday 8pm The chef rustles up a host of mouthwatering festive recipes

The Nativity, BBC1, Monday 7pm An all-star cast, including Andrew Buchan and Tatiana Masalany as Joseph and Mary, feature in this retelling of the classic Bible story

The Gadget Show's Christmas Stocking, Five, Monday 8pm Jon Bentley, Pollyanna Woodward and the team look back over the highlights of an action-packed series



Come Rain Come Shine, ITV1, Monday 8.30pm David Jason and Alison Steadman top the bill in a drama about the true cost of borrowing

MONDAY DECEMBER 20

PRODUCED BY GLOBAL LISTINGS

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.15** Animal 24:7 (R/S) **10.00** Homes Under the Hammer (R/S) **11.00** To Buy or Not To Buy (R/S) **11.30** Cash in the Attic (R/S) **12.15** Bargain Hunt (R/S) **1.00** News; Regional News (S) **1.45** 'Allo 'Allo (R/S) **2.35** The Young Ones (R/S) **3.35 FILM: Father of the Bride** (1991) (S) **5.15** The Weakest Link (S) **6.00** News (S) **6.30** Regional News (S)

7.00 NEW The Nativity (S)
7.30 Deadly 60 on a Mission (R/S)
8.00 EastEnders (S)
8.30 Carry on Banking: Panorama A look at banking since the financial crisis. (S)
9.00 Accused Alison and her husband David stand on opposite sides of the courtroom. (S)

10.00 News; Regional News (S) **10.35** A Question of Sport (S) **11.05** The Graham Norton Show (R/S) **11.55** The Apprentice: The Final (R/S) **1.55** Weatherview (S) **2.00** Sign Zone: The Apprentice: The Final Five (R/S) **3.00** The Apprentice (R/S) **4.00** Rick Stein's Cornish Christmas (R/S) **4.30** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.00** CBBC **8.45** Animal Park: Wild in Africa (R/S) **9.30** Climbing Great Buildings (R/S) **10.00** Britain by Bike (R/S) **10.30 FILM: Magnificent Showman** (1964) (S) **12.45** Film 2010 with Claudia Winkleman (R/S) **1.15** Hairy Bikers' Twelve Days of Christmas (R/S) **2.15** Ready Steady Cook (R/S) **3.00** Murder, She Wrote (R/S) **3.45** Flog It (R/S) **4.30** Pointless (R/S) **5.15** Escape to the Country (R/S) **6.00** Celebrity Eggheads (S) **6.30** Outtake TV (R/S)

7.00 Yellowstone (R/S)
8.00 University Challenge (S)
8.30 Miranda A plan to spend Christmas at the shop backfires spectacularly. (S)
9.00 Ruth Jones's Christmas Cracker With Ricky Gervais. (S)
9.40 Have I Got News for You With Ruth Jones and Clive Anderson. (R/S)
10.10 FILM: Sliding Doors (1998) Romantic comedy starring Gwyneth Paltrow and John Hannah. (S)

11.45 Grumpy Old Women at Christmas (R/S) **12.45** Medium (R/S) **1.25** Medium (R/S) **2.10** News (S) **4.30** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show (S) **10.30** This Morning (S) **12.30** Loose Women (S) **1.30** News (S) **2.00** House Gift Christmas Special (S) **3.00** Midsomer Murders (R/S) **5.00** The Unforgettable Harry Secombe (S) **6.00** News (S)

7.00 Emmerdale David is stunned by Justin's shocking revelation, while Hazel works out who her mystery benefactor is. (S)
7.30 Coronation Street Steve confronts Becky with his suspicions. (S)
8.00 Countrywise Kitchen The team goes in search of seasonal treats in the ancient Vale of Belvoir. (S)
8.30 Come Rain Come Shine Emotional drama starring David Jason and Alison Steadman. (S)

10.30 News (S) **11.05 FILM: Intolerable Cruelty** (2002) Comic drama starring George Clooney, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Geoffrey Rush. (S) **12.55** The Zone **2.55** Jeremy Kyle Show (R/S) **3.50** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Treacle People (R/S) **6.15** Freshly Squeezed **6.40** One Tree Hill (S) **7.25** Everybody Loves Raymond (R/S) **7.55** According to Jim (R/S) **8.25** Kirstie's Homemade Christmas (R/S) **9.25** T4: Friends (R/S) **10.30** Album Chart Show: N-Dubz Special (R/S) **11.00** Glee (R/S) **12.00** 3 Minute Wonder (R/S) Triple bill. **12.15 FILM: Baby's Day Out** (1994) (S) **2.05 FILM: Harry and the Hendersons** (1987) (S) **4.10** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa (S) **4.55** Celebrity Come Dine with Me (R/S) **6.00** Simpsons (S) **6.30** Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 News (S)
8.00 River Cottage Christmas Fayre (R/S)
9.00 Jamie's Best Ever Christmas The chef prepares festive recipes. (S)
10.00 Alan Carr: Chatty Man With singer and X Factor judge Cheryl Cole. (S)

11.05 Peep Show (R/S) **11.40** Omid Djalili Live in London (R/S) **12.40** Poker (S) **1.40 FILM: All the Pretty Horses** (2000) Modern western with Matt Damon. (S) **3.40** King of the Hill (S) **4.05** Brothers and Sisters (R/S) **4.50** ER (R/S) **5.35** One Tree Hill (S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **10.20** Penguin Week with Nigel Marven (R/S) **10.50** Ice Road Truckers (R/S) **11.50** News (S) **12.00 FILM: A Grandpa for Christmas** (2007) (S) **1.45** Neighbours (S) **2.15** CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (R/S) **3.10 FILM: The Christmas Card** (2006) (S) **5.00** News (S) **5.30** Neighbours (R/S) **6.00** Monkey Life (S) **6.25** Live from Studio Five (S)

7.00 News (S)
7.30 How Do They Do It? A look at the science and technology behind satellite navigation. (S)
8.00 The Gadget Show's Christmas Stocking (S)
9.00 Extreme Fishing with Robson Green The Geordie heads to California to end his world tour. (S)
10.00 FILM: The Foreigner (2003) Action thriller starring Steven Seagal and Anna-Louise Plowman. (S)

11.55 The Hunt for Red October: The True Story (R/S) **12.55** Supercasino **3.55** World Poker Tour London (R/S) **4.45** House Doctor (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge (R/S)

TUESDAY DECEMBER 21

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.15** Animal 24:7 (R/S) **10.00** Homes Under the Hammer (R/S) **11.00** To Buy or Not To Buy (R/S) **11.30** Cash in the Attic (R/S) **12.15** Bargain Hunt (R/S) **1.00** News; Regional News (S) **1.45** Keeping Up Appearances (R/S) **2.45** The Young Ones (R/S) **3.45 FILM: George of the Jungle** (1997) (S) **5.15** Weakest Link (S) **6.00** News (S) **6.30** Regional News (S)

7.00 The Nativity Mary learns she will bear the son of God. (S)
7.30 EastEnders (S)
8.00 Holby City Struggling to cope, Chrissie opens up to Sacha. (S)
9.00 Accidental Farmer A high-flying advertising executive swaps the big city for a rundown farm in rural Yorkshire. (S)

10.00 News; Regional News (S) **10.35** Imagine: Ray Davies - Imaginary Man (S) **11.55 FILM: Taking Sides** (2001) **1.40** Weatherview (S) **1.45** Sign Zone: See Hear (R/S) **2.15** The Apprentice: Why I Fired Them (R/S) **3.15** Turn Back Time: The High Street (R/S) **4.15** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.00** CBBC **8.55** Animal Park: Wild in Africa (R/S) **9.40** Climbing Great Buildings (R/S) **10.10** Britain by Bike (R/S) **10.40 FILM: Spirited Away** (2002) (S) **12.40 FILM: The Nightmare Before Christmas** (1993) Animated musical fantasy. (S) **1.50** Rick Stein's Christmas Odyssey (S) **2.20** Ready Steady Cook (R/S) **3.05** Murder, She Wrote (R/S) **3.50** Flog It (R/S) **4.35** Pointless (R/S) **5.20** Celebrity Eggheads (S) **5.50** Porridge Christmas Special (R) **6.30** TOTP2 Christmas (R/S)

8.00 Top Gear (R/S)
9.05 NEW Oz and Hugh Raise the Bar The pair discover offal and jellyfish flavoured beers in Cornwall. (S)
10.05 Mock the Week With Dara O Briain, Hugh Dennis, Andy Parsons and Russell Howard. (S)

10.35 Never Mind the Buzzcocks (S) **11.05** Have I Got News for You (R/S) **11.35** Russell Howard Live: Dingledodies (R/S) **12.35** The Many Faces of Richard Wilson (R/S) **1.35** Medium (R/S) **2.20** Medium (R/S) **3.00** News (S) **4.15** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show (S) **10.30** This Morning (S) **12.30** Loose Women (S) **1.30** News (S) **2.00** May the Best Christmas House Win (S) **3.00** Midsomer Murders (R/S) **5.00** The Unforgettable Danny La Rue (S) **6.00** News (S)

7.00 Emmerdale Leyla defends her lies in front of a stunned Alicia and David – will this be the last straw for him? (S)
7.30 River Monsters Jeremy Wade is on a quest to Africa's Rift Valley, where fishermen have one of the most dangerous jobs in existence. (S)
8.00 Children's Hospital at Christmas Special following staff and patients at the Royal Manchester. (S)
9.00 The Savoy 2 of 2. The hotel is re-opening after refurbishment. (S)

10.00 News (S) **10.35 FILM: The Dukes of Hazzard** (2005) Remake of the classic 1980s series. (S) **12.35** Christmas Tales: The Story of the Tree (R/S) **1.30** The Zone **3.30** Rockford Files (S) **4.25** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.20 Freshly Squeezed **6.50** One Tree Hill (S) **7.40** Frasier (R/S) **8.05** According to Jim (R/S) **8.35** Kirstie's Homemade Christmas (R/S) **9.35** T4: Friends (R/S) (R/S) **10.35** The Album Chart Show: McFly Special (R/S) **11.05** Glee (R/S) **12.00 FILM: Because of Winn-Dixie** (2005) (S) **2.05 FILM: Alaska** (1996) (S) **4.10** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa (S) **5.00** Celebrity Come Dine with Me (R/S) **6.00** Simpsons (S) **6.30** Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 News (S)
8.00 The Secrets of Westminster Abbey: A Time Team Special (R/S)
9.00 Jamie's Best Ever Christmas (S)
10.00 Frankie Boyle's Tramadol Nights (S)
10.30 The Morgana Show (S)

11.05 The Family (S) **12.05** Music on 4: Little Noise Sessions (S) **12.40** Mercury Prize Sessions (R/S) **12.55** Mumford and Sons: Gentlemen of the Road (S) **1.10** The Album Chart Show Spotlight (S) **1.25** FIVB World Tour (S) **2.15** KOTV Boxing Weekly (S) **2.45** World Sport (R/S) **3.10** Deadliest Catch (R/S) **3.55** Brothers and Sisters (R/S) **4.35** ER (R/S) **5.20** One Tree Hill (S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **10.10** Zoo Days (R/S) **10.20** Penguin Week with Nigel Marven (R/S) **10.50** Ice Road Truckers (R/S) **11.50** News (S) **12.00 FILM: Three Wise Guys** (2005) (S) **1.45** Neighbours (S) **2.15** CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (R/S) **3.10 FILM: A Carol Christmas** (2003) (S) **5.00** News (S) **5.30** Neighbours (R/S) **6.00** Monkey Life (S) **6.25** Live from Studio Five (S)

7.00 News (S)
7.30 Street Market Chefs Recipes using locally produced chocolate. (S)
8.00 The Princess and the Press: How Kate's Life Will Change Forever A look at what Kate Middleton's life will be like when she becomes royalty. (S)
9.00 CSI: Miami A serial killer taunts the CSIs with a string of cryptic clues. (S)
10.00 CSI: NY Mac, Lindsay and Hawkes investigate the death of a so-called 'subway surfer'. (R/S)

10.55 CSI (R/S) **11.55** True CSI (R/S) **12.55** Supercasino **3.55** World Poker Tour London (R/S) **4.45** House Doctor (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge (R/S)

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 22

(R) Repeat (S) Subtitles

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.15** Animal 24:7 (R/S) **10.00** Homes Under the Hammer (R/S) **11.00** To Buy or Not To Buy (R/S) **11.30** Cash in the Attic (R/S) **12.15** Bargain Hunt (R/S) **1.00** News; Regional News (S) **1.45** Only Fools and Horses (R/S) **2.45** The Young Ones (R/S) **3.40 FILM: Herbie: Fully Loaded** (2005) (S) **5.15** The Weakest Link (S) **6.00** News (S) **6.30** Regional News (S)

7.00 The Nativity (S)
7.30 Dig 1940 (S)
8.00 Jimmy's Christmas Food Factory The farmer creates his own festive supermarket production line. (S)
8.30 Nigel Slater's Simple Suppers (S)
9.00 Supermarkets: What Price Cheap Food? The true cost of cheap food. (S)

10.00 News; Regional News (S) **10.35** The National Lottery Wednesday Night Draws (S) **10.45** Catherine Tate: Nan's Christmas Carol (R/S) **11.35 FILM: Holiday in Handcuffs** (2007) (S) **1.10** Sign Zone: Country Tracks (R/S) **2.05** The Story of Science (R/S) **3.05** Hairy Bikers: Mums Know Best at Christmas (R/S) **4.05** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.00** CBBC **8.30** Animal Park: Wild in Africa (R/S) **9.15** Climbing Great Buildings (R/S) **9.45** Britain by Bike (R/S) **10.15 FILM: The Cardinal** (1963) **1.05** Lifeline (R/S) **1.15** Coast (R/S) **1.20** Rick Stein's Cornish Christmas (R/S) **2.20** Ready Steady Cook (R/S) **3.05** Murder, She Wrote (R/S) **3.50** Flog It (R/S) **4.35** Pointless Celebrities (S) **5.20** Escape to the Country (R/S) **6.05** Celebrity Eggheads (S) **6.35** Yellowstone (R/S)

7.35 Nigella Kitchen Recipes include tender turkey meatballs and black beer gingerbread. (S)
8.05 Victoria Wood with All The Trimmings Alan Rickman and Julie Walters join the comedian for some Christmas comedy. (R/S)
9.00 FILM: The Other Boleyn Girl (2008) Historical drama with Natalie Portman and Scarlett Johansson. (S)

10.50 Ruth Jones's Christmas Cracker (R/S) **11.30** The Goodies (R) **12.00** Funny Side of Christmas (R/S) **1.00** Medium (R/S) **1.40** Medium (R/S) **2.20** News (S) **4.05** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show (S) **10.30** This Morning (S) **12.30** Loose Women (S) **1.30** News (S) **2.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot (R/S) **3.00** Midsomer Murders (R/S) **5.00** The Unforgettable Mike Reid (S) **6.00** News (S)

7.00 Countrywise Winter Special Paul Heiney introduces a festive look back at the year. (S)
7.30 Emmerdale With Jacob's life in danger, Leyla hopes that David can forgive her. (S)
8.00 It's Paul Burling The Britain's Got Talent finalist lampoons the showbiz characters of 2010. (S)
9.00 The Comedy Annual 2010 British comedians come together to take a look back at 2010 and deliver their verdict on the year in fun. (S)

10.00 News (S) **10.35 FILM: Batman Begins** (2005) Comic-book action adventure with Christian Bale, Liam Neeson and Michael Caine. (S) **1.00** The Zone **3.05** Surface (R/S) **3.50** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Treacle People (R/S) **6.20** Freshly Squeezed **6.50** One Tree Hill (S) **7.40** Frasier (R/S) **8.05** According to Jim (R/S) **8.35** Kirstie's Homemade Christmas (R/S) **9.35** T4: Friends (R/S) **10.35** Album Chart Show: Cee-Lo Special (R/S) **11.05** Cheryl Cole T4 Special (R/S) **11.20** Glee (R/S) **12.15** Gulliver's Travels: T4 Movie Special (S) **12.45 FILM: Barnyard** (2006) (S) **2.25 FILM: Honey I Shrunk the Kids** (1989) (S) **4.10** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa (S) **5.00** Celebrity Come Dine with Me (R/S) **6.00** The Simpsons (S) **6.30** Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 News (S)
8.00 Christmas with Gordon (S)
9.00 Come Dine with Me: Celebrity Christmas Special With Goldie, Tony Christie, Janet Ellis and Susie Amy. (S)
10.00 Chris Moyles' Christmas Quiz Night Guests include Pamela Anderson. (S)

10.50 The Family (S) **12.20** The Event (R/S) **1.20** The Real Housewives of New Jersey (S) **2.05 FILM: Candy** (2006) (S) **3.55** Brothers and Sisters (R/S) **4.40** ER (R/S) **5.25** Hill Street Blues (R/S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **10.10** Penguin Week with Nigel Marven (R/S) **10.40** Ice Road Truckers (R/S) **11.40** News (S) **11.45 FILM: Boyfriend for Christmas** (2004) (S) **1.45** Neighbours (S) **2.15** CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (R/S) **3.15 FILM: Our First Christmas** (2008) (S) **5.00** News (S) **5.30** Neighbours (R/S) **6.00** Monkey Life (S) **6.25** Live from Studio Five (S)

7.00 News (S)
7.30 Highland Emergency HMS Gannet's crew helps a diver with the bends. (S)
8.00 Emergency Bikers Action-packed documentary series following the work of emergency bike crews. (S)
9.00 NCIS A missing lance corporal is found dead in a vacant house. (R/S)
10.00 Law and Order: Criminal Intent Bobby finds a picture indicating that an old nemesis has returned. (S)

10.55 Law and Order (R/S) **11.55** PartyPoker.com World Open VI **12.50** Supercasino **3.55** World Poker Tour Paris (R/S) **4.45** House Doctor (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge (R/S)

It's pantomime time – oh yes it is!

Panto season is upon us once again and whether you choose to stay local or go further afield there is one to suit you all. Here the team from MKNEWS provides you with the lowdown on all of them

Dirk Benedict stars as King Rat in MK Theatre's Dick Whittington

DICK WHITTINGTON

MILTON KEYNES THEATRE

Until January 16

MILTON Keynes Theatre is delighted to announce that television legend Dirk Benedict, best known for his iconic role as Lieutenant Templeton 'Face' Peck in The A-Team, and Gavin and Stacey star Joanna Page will both lead the fun and magic in this year's spectacular pantomime Dick Whittington.

And if that wasn't enough, Britain's Got Talent fans can also look forward to a special guest appearance from the show's favourites Stavros Flatley who are sure to bring the house down night after night.

Make sure you join Dick Whittington and his trusted feline companion on their fun-filled quest for fame and fortune. Will they find the streets paved with gold? Will Dick win the hand of the lovely Alice? Will he defeat the boo-able King Rat?

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

THE STABLES

Until January 8

STRANGEFACE has created an amazing adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic ghost story A Christmas Carol. Dramatic masks, fascinating puppets and a magical set combine to create an entrancing heady brew, both moving and comic. Strangeface have been touring nationally since 2001 and are equally at home in grand old theatres as rural halls in the Highlands. The company's distinctive style blends quick changes, mask and puppet play with original live music and spooky soundscapes. A masked chorus leads the characters through the hidden doors and windows of the higgledy-piggledy set and their conversations with the audience make each performance unique.

ROBIN HOOD AND THE BABES IN THE WOOD

STANTONBURY CAMPUS THEATRE

Until January 3

Milton Keynes Amateur Operatic Society

IT'S desperate times in Nottingham, where townsfolk struggle with rising taxes under a reign of terror from the evil Sheriff of Nottingham. Only one man can stop him - Robin Hood!

Our Goodie in a Hoodie robs from the rich to give to the poor, hiding out in Sherwood Forest with his Merry Men. But now the Sheriff is planning his most evil plot yet, to steal an inheritance from two small children and lure our hero into a trap by marrying Robin's sweetheart, the beautiful Maid Marion.

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

DERNGATE THEATRE, Northampton

Until January 9

HEARTTHROB, TV and West End star Ray Quinn (X Factor and Dancing On Ice) heads the cast in the role of Jack.

Featuring magnificent scenery, beautiful costumes, an abundance of comedy, a larger than life beanstalk and one very mean giant at the top of it, this favourite fairy tale will be brought magically to life.

Plus there's a very special guest performance by the Pride of Northampton's Moosterious.

Cilla Black in Cinderella at Aylesbury

Jack and the Beanstalk at the Derngate

THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

THE ROYAL THEATRE, Northampton

Until January 9

JOIN evacuees Lucy, Edmund, Susan and Peter as they step through an old wardrobe into the mysterious land of Narnia, where the ruthless White Witch ensures it is always winter but never Christmas. Alongside a host of forest friends, including Mr Tumnus the faun, the four siblings join with the majestic lion Aslan to battle the Witch and bring happiness - and Christmas to the land of Narnia once again.

ALADDIN

THE GROVE THEATRE, Dunstable

Until January 2

DUNSTABLE'S very own Faye Tozer (STEPS), CITV presenter Richard Cadell, Sooty, Sweep and Soo plus arguably the nation's favourite panto dame Stephen David and the most famous ringmaster in the world, Norman Barrett, feature.

Join Aladdin on a thrilling carpet ride and an adventure of a lifetime! With an all-star cast, sparkling sets, glorious costumes, spellbinding special effects, dancing, singing, comedy and loads of audience participation, this is a show guaranteed to enthral the whole family.

ROBIN HOOD

THE CASTLE, Wellingborough

Until December 30

HAVE you seen this man who goes by the name of Robin Hood?

According to folklore, he steals from the rich to give to poor.

With the help of his colourful friends including the jolly Friar Tuck, his loyal confidante Little John, and his heart's desire, the lovely Maid Marion, Robin Hood is always battling to triumph over evil.

But there's one man who's out to stop him - the Sheriff of Nottingham - and he'll stop at nothing to catch Robin.

CINDERELLA

AYLESBURY WATERSIDE THEATRE, Aylesbury

Until December 30

SUPERSTAR Cilla Black brings a lorra, lorra sparkle to a magical show bursting with lavish sets, glittering costumes, a live orchestra, hilarious ugly sisters and real Shetland ponies.

Cilla will be joined on stage by real life heart-throb Gary Lucy (Hollyoaks, Footballers' Wives, Dancing on Ice) set to break hearts as Cinderella's dashing Prince Charming and TV's funny man Andy Collins as Buttons.

Maybe the best-loved panto of all time is guaranteed to bring the finest of festive fun to Aylesbury this year.

THE SNOW QUEEN

LEIGHTON LIBRARY THEATRE, Leighton Buzzard

Until January 22

THE Leighton Buzzard Drama Group present the Hans Christian Anderson classic The Snow Queen. Thursdays and Fridays only at 7.15pm.

Inquisitive young Kai is captured by the beautiful but cold-hearted Snow Queen and is whisked away to the sparkling, snowy forests of Siberia and the Land of Ice. His fearless friend Gerda sets out to rescue him with the help of the magical Jack Frost. Her grandmother, Granny Featheredge, a wacky good witch goes, too. On the way they meet a host of characters including Hammer and Tongs, The Riddling Crowman, evil Black Ice and even Father Christmas.

MILTON KEYNES CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC AT FENNY STRATFORD

TEL: 01908 37 27 37

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR PATIENTS PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT
Due to the unfortunate and confusing fact that there are a number of clinics in the Milton Keynes area that have very similar trading names we would like to make it 100% clear that we are in no way associated or affiliated with ANY other clinics in the area, no matter how similar to us their trading name or advertising may be. We are an independent clinic in our own right, based in Fenny Stratford (near Bletchley) and we abide to the following important ethical protocols.

VALUE FOR MONEY SPINAL HEALTHCARE
Most of our patients find they achieve significant improvements in their condition within as little as **only 2-8 treatment sessions**

OUR CLINIC POLICY
We DO NOT agree with advising patients to pay in advance for block sessions.
We tailor treatment programmes to fit the inidvidual and modify treatment programmes as you progress. Therefore promoting cost effective patient care.
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All our Doctors of Chiropractic have undergone 5 years full time training and are registered with and abide by the rules and ethics of the General Chiropractic Council. Normal treatment sessions are from 20 to 40 minutes promoting excellent value for money with no compromise to quality of care

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The answer may be found in a thorough chiropractic consultation

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- Acute whiplash-associated disorders
- Certain shoulder, elbow, hip, knee and foot conditions

For more information about our services please feel free to call us or view our website

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MK DONS

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WOUGHTON LEISURE CENTRE 01908 660392

MUD II - 70S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 19

IF you are feeling Lonely This Christmas cheer up with 70s glam rock band Mud II, featuring members of Les Gray's Mud.

The sad passing of Les Gray in 2004 left a massive void on the 70s circuit, but the sound and hits such as Tiger Feet, Oh Boy, Lonely This Christmas, The Cat Crept In and Dynamite continue courtesy of his estate and members of the band who performed alongside him. This line-up have played festivals, concert halls and theatres in the UK, Europe and Russia including five nationwide tours, and last appeared in Milton Keynes headlining at Togfest in 2008.

They will be joined by a new outfit Sign Of The Times, featuring Pip Hodge who plays guitar and sampler pedal, a la Katie Tunstall.

Tickets are available price £15 from the Woughton Centre.

Doors open at 7pm.

See Simon Darnell – page 28

THE STABLES 01908 280800

THE LADY IS A DAME

Cleo's Christmas

Tomorrow 8pm

COME and join in the holiday cheer with Cleo and her special guests. High quality family fare from The Stables' First Lady. With John Horler on piano, Alec Dankworth on bass, Jimmy Hastings on saxes plus violin virtuosity from Chris Garrick and Peter Fisher.

Tickets £29, £31.50*

A fundraising concerts in aid of Wavendon Allmusic Plan Ltd

Dame Cleo Lane

THE FISHERMAN'S FRIEND

Sunday, December 19. 8pm

THE Fisherman's Friends hail from the tiny fishing village of Port Isaac on the north Cornish coast. During the summer months, tourists and locals gather each evening to hear this tenman group mesh their voices in an incredibly rousing and joyful set of shanties and Cornish folk songs. Fisherman's Friends are five baritones, two top tenors, two second tenors and one bass, drawing from a repertoire reaching back 200 years, embracing songs and shanties from Cornwall, Liverpool, Ireland, Africa, the West Indies and America. Be prepared to have your ears blown clean off.

Tickets £19.50

WHITE HORSE STONY STRATFORD 01908 567082

FIVE MEN NOT CALLED MATT

Tomorrow 9pm

HORSE-DRAWN Thursdays Event: Five fine, manly voices, harmonising (mostly) their way through traditional and contemporary songs, interspersed with the most appalling jokes you've heard in a long time.

BULLFROGS

Saturday, December 18. 9pm

LIVE and kicking country rock, Cajun sway, and just a few of those 3-Kleenex ballads.

DAILY LIFE

TOMORROW

PUSHCHAIRS in the Park - Mud pies, rustic crafts and woodland investigation. Pushchairs optional, wellies essential. Park at Medbourne Sports Pavilion, Pascal Drive, Medbourne. 10-1130am, free. Contact The Parks Trust on 01908 233600 or visit www.theparkstrust.com.

SATURDAY

BORN in a Stable – nativity-based theatre show and Trouble in Santa Land – pantomime. 7.30pm at Heath Barn, Eastern Way, Leighton Buzzard. In aid of the LB Canal Society. Raffle and refreshments. £5 or £4 concs on 07818 288522 or e-mail great_tim_time@yahoo.co.uk

BUSZY Christmas Market. Indoors upstairs at The Buszy (the old bus station). Vintage and craft sellers, mince pies and mulled wine, Christmas crafts and games for kids. 11am-3pm. To book a stall (for £10) e-mail Anna.peters@mad-uk.org or 01908 231312

IT'S Christmas with the Chorale - Festive music. 8pm at Christ the Cornerstone church. Milton Keynes Chorale will be performing alongside members of MK Brass, Tim Grant-Jones organ. Tickets, inc refreshments, £10, under 16s £1, call 01908 320958 or on the door.

CHRYSALIS Theatre, Willen. Winter Wonderland. Arts 1 musical theatre choir perform songs from popular musicals as well as Christmas favourites. £8 (conc £6) 3.30-4.30pm further details www.arts1.co.uk.

SUNDAY

CAROLS in the Woods - A magical evening of singing in the beautiful setting of Linford Wood. Warm up with mulled wine and mince pies. Park on the roadside at Breckland, H3 Monks Way. At Linford Wood, 4-5.30pm, free. For full details of this event please contact The Parks Trust on 01908 233600 or visit www.theparkstrust.com.

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TVguide2010

SIMON **DARNELL'S** YULETIDE TUNES

Here we are then, almost at the end of yet another year. Time for the annual look at a couple of the classic Yuletide songs that you might be downloading this year. (At this point, your reviewer retrieves a party hat from a Christmas cracker and promptly chucks it in the bin – well, there are limits).

MARY'S BOY CHILD / OH MY LORD

Boney M

IT'S not as good as Rasputin and it's not a patch on Daddy Cool, but it is a Christmas song so here it is. Besides, how often do you get two songs for the price of one?

The trouble with this medley is that it feels like two songs playing one after the other, and as the running time sails way past five and a half minutes it probably is.

After four minutes have passed, Mary's Boy Child is still strutting its stuff while poor old Oh My Lord is left waiting in the wings, trying to get the other song's attention by tapping its watch in a very visible manner.

It finally gets on the stage, but of course DJs prefer playing simple three minute songs so by the time it eventually takes over most of its audience has gone home.

The final insult is the way it's faded out, slowly at first and then faster and faster, as though the person in charge of the volume control realised they were supposed to be somewhere else in a minute. Still, there are far worse Christmas songs than this one – these two – whatever. You decide.

LONELY THIS CHRISTMAS

Mud

BLIMEY, this is a bit grim. This was the Christmas Number One in the year I was born, but don't try blaming me for this, I didn't buy it.

Still, Shakin' Stevens and Slade have sewn up the "Wow, isn't Christmas just the best thing EVER?" market, so somebody's got to look at the downside of the festive period.

Even the tune sounds like it's suffered its fair share of disappointments, but it fits perfectly with the lyrics.

It's an old, familiar story; boy meets girl, girl walks out on boy, boy cries his eyes out, boy doesn't put the central heating on (which explains why he's lonely and cold), boy also forgets to plug in the lights on his Christmas tree, boy pours his heart out, girl still doesn't come back.

This song pre-dates EastEnders' Christmas Day "specials" by over a decade, so if you're into festive doom and gloom, this should be right up your street.

■ **Mud II are playing at Woughton Leisure Centre on Sunday** **see page 27**

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THE HUB

Join in festive frolics and fun at The Hub

ON Saturday The Hub at Milton Keynes will be getting into the Christmas mood by hosting an early evening of festive frolics and fun.

With a fantastic line up of events and performances, Father Christmas will be arriving in style on a beautiful sleigh pulled by two of his favourite reindeer surrounded by fairies on stilts acrobatic and mischievous elves, and popular street dance acts Frantic UK and Desperate2Dance plus a special appearance from Fagin.

Transformed into a dazzling winter wonderland The Hub Piazza will be alive with twinkling lights, music hosted by presenter Trevor Marshall, a live mobile performance from Jazz Trio plus a guaranteed white Christmas on the evening with atmospheric artificial snow.

Children will also be encouraged to take part in the fantastic Big Christmas Card Competition with MK Play running a Santa's Workshop with arts and crafts on hand to help create a stunning array of festive cards.

Simon Spavins from The Hub management company, Broadoak, said; "After the success of Halloween at The Hub, our Christmas extravaganza is set to be even bigger and better with some magical acts and events planned for the evening.

"It is set to be an unmissable seasonal night out with restaurants at The Hub also getting in the party spirit offering festive Christmas menus so families can really make a night of it."

The early evening festivities starts at 4pm so wrap up warm put on your Christmas best and join in the fun.

MKNEWS
would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas

Raymond Gubbay presents
JOHANN STRAUSS GALA
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CHRISTMAS@ the hub milton keynes
Saturday 18th December 2010
4.00pm – 6.00pm
THE BIG CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION
Create the most fantastic Christmas Cards and enter the competition
Supporting entertainment:
- Trevor Marshall – DJ & Host
- Acrobatic and Mischievous Elves
- Desperate2Dance
- Fairies on Stilts
- Frantic UK
- Jazz Trio
- Fagin

Father Christmas will make a special visit by magical sleigh with his favourite reindeer!!
MK Play will be running a Santa's Workshop for children to complete their Christmas Cards and make festive decorations
The Hub is situated on Midsummer and Avebury Boulevards between the train station and the shopping centre
www.thehub-miltonkeynes.com
NB: Events and their content are subject to variation and change without prior notification, check the website for latest news.

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3	**PEPPERONI FEAST** Onion, Muchrooms & Pepperoni	9.50	12.50	15.50
4	**OCEAN FEAST** Tuna, Prawns, Anchovies & Tomatos	9.50	12.50	15.50
5	**CHICKEN FEAST** BBQ Sauce, Plain Chicken, Mushrooms & Peppers	9.50	12.50	15.50
6	**AMERICANA** Onion, Pepperoni, Beef, Green Chillies & Peppers	9.50	12.50	15.50
7	**MEXICANA** Chicken Tikka, Jalepenos, Peppers, & Pineapple	9.50	12.50	15.50
8	**TASTY VEGGIE** Onion, Mushroom, Sweetcorn, Peppers, Olives & Tomatos	9.50	12.50	15.50
9	**MEAT FEAST** Beef, Pepperoni, Turkey & Chicken Tikka	9.50	12.50	15.50
10	**TASTY SPECIAL** Onion, Chiken, Green Chillies, Peppers & Tomatoes	10.00	13.00	16.00
11	**TASTY FULL HOUSE** Beef, Pepperoni, Peppers, Sweetcorn, Onion & Turkey	10.50	13.50	16.50
12	**FREE CHOICE** Choose 4 Toppings - Choose a Base from Tomato, BBQ, Garlic Mayo & Chilli	10.50	13.50	16.50
13	**DONER PIZZA** Doner Meat, Onions & Jalepenos	9.50	12.50	16.00
14	**CORRIANDER TANDOORI CHICKEN** Topping, Red Onion, Green Chilli, Tandoori Chicken, Garlic Sauce & Fresh Coriander	9.50	12.50	16.00
15	**CHICKEN BBQ PIZZA** BBQ base, Onion, Turkey Meat & BBQ Chicken	9.50	12.50	16.00
16	**ORIENTAL EXPRESS** Sweetcorn, Green Pepper, Chinese Chicken & Mushroom	9.50	12.50	16.00
17	**STUFFED CRUST**	90p	1.20	1.90
18	**CHEESE & PEPPERONI STUFFED CRUST**	1.00	1.30	2.00

SIDE ORDERS

Jalapino Cream Cheese 6 pcs	£3.50
Breaded Mozzerella stick 8 pcs	£3.95
Garlic Bread 4 pcs	£1.70
Garlic Bread with Cheese 4pcs	£2.20
Potato Wedges 1portion	£2.95
Potato twister 1 portion	£2.95
Onion Rings 10 pcs	£2.00

CHICKEN

Family Buckets:	
1) 15 piece chicken, 4 fries with 1.5ltr coke	£18.50
2) 18 piece chicken, 6 fries with 1.5ltr coke	£21.50
3) 12 piece chicken, 4 fries with 1.5ltr coke	£16.99
Hot n spicy chicken wings & fries & drink meal	£3.50
6 chicken nuggets & fries	£2.99
1 piece of chicken & fries	£1.99
2 pcs chicken & fries	£2.99
6 pcs chicken & 2 fries	£7.99

BURGERS

Chicken fillet burger	£2.50
¼ cheese burger	£2.50
½ cheese burger	£3.50
Veggie burger	£2.50
Egg Burger	£2.80

ROLLS

Chicken tikka roll	£4.50
Lamb Tikka Roll	£4.50
Mix roll	£5.00
Sheekh Roll	£4.50
Spicy chicken donner roll	£4.50
Lamb Donner Roll	£4.50
Donner meat & fries	£3.99

KEBABS

Chicken Tikka Kebab	£3.99
Lamb Tikka Kebab	£3.99
Sheesh Kebab	£3.99
Mixed chicken & lamb kebab	£3.99
Lamb donner kebab	£3.99

CHICKEN CURRY

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Chicken Curry	£5.49
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Chicken Jalfrazi	£5.49
Chicken Palak	£5.49
Chicken Chanay	£5.49
Chiken Korma	£5.99
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BIRYANI DISHES

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Lamb Biryani	£5.50
Vegetable Biryani	£3.99
Kind Prawn Biryani	£6.99
Fish Biryani	£6.50
T.F.C Biryani	£6.99
Mushroom Biryani	£3.99
Chicken Tikka Biryani	£6.99
Lamb Tikka Biryani	£6.99

GRILL

Janghir Steam Roast	£4.99
Tandoori Lamb Chops	£3.99
Sheesh Kebab Portion (4)	£4.00
Chicken tikka	£3.99
Lamb Tikka	£3.99
Chicken Wings	£3.50
Grill Fish	£4.50
Meat & veggie samosa (2)	£1.40

T.F.C/ SPECIALS

Tandoori Lamb Chops Masala	£6.00
Lamb Tikka Masala	£5.50
Desi Murgh on bones	£7.99
Desi Lamb Karahi on bone (1kg)	£12.00
Chicken Ginger (1kg)	£10.00

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DRINKS

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Coke/Orange/Lemonade cans	0.60

MEAL DEALS

Chicken Burger & Chips	3.95
1/2 Pound Beefburger & Chips	3.95
2 Pieces Chicken & Chips	3.50
3 Pieces Chicken & Chips	4.50
4 Pieces Chicken & Chips	5.50
Extra Piece of Chicken	1.00
Steak (8oz Sirloin) with Chips, Mushrooms & Salad	9.00
Large Doner Kebab	4.50
Small Doner Kebab	3.50

PICK 'n' MIX PIZZA:

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Tomato, Cheese, Tuna, Prawn, Anchovies, Chicken, Beef, Sausage, Bacon, Pineapple, Ham, Salami, Pepperonni, Chicken Tikka, Olives, Mushrooms, Corn, Onions, Pepper, Garlic, Jalepeno, BBQ Sauces	9" REGULAR OR TRADITIONAL	12" REGULAR OR TRADITIONAL	12" DEEP PAN	15" REGULAR OR TRADITIONAL
CHEESE & TOMATO BAS plus ANY 2 DIFFERENT TOPPINGS	9.50	10.50	12.00	15.00
CHEESE & TOMATO BAS plus ANY 4 DIFFERENT TOPPINGS (ADDITIONAL TOPPINGS £1)	9.80	11.00	13.00	16.00
CHEESE & TOMATO BAS plus ANY 8 DIFFERENT TOPPINGS	10.30	12.00	14.00	17.00

PIZZA MENU

ADDITIONAL TOPPINGS £1

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STEP 01: CHOOSE YOUR PIZZA BASE
* REGULAR BASE (Our Famous Original Crust)
* STUFFED CRUST (Add £1.50 per pizza 9" & 12" only)
* CHICAGO DEEP-PAN (American style deep crust)

STEP 02: SELECT YOUR PIZZA TASTE

	9" REGULAR OR TRADITIONAL	12" REGULAR OR TRADITIONAL	12" Deep Pan	15" REGULAR OR TRADITIONAL
1. PAPA LUIGI SPECIAL Tomato, Cheese, Ham, Mushroom, Salami, Peppers, Olives, Anchovies	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
2. HOT "N" SPICY Tomato, Cheese, Salami, Peppers, Jalapenos, Garlic	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
3. VEGI SPECIAL Tomato, Cheese ,Peppers, Corn, Mushrooms, Pineapple, Olives, Onion	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
4. PESCATORE Tomato, Cheese, Tuna, Prawns, Anchovies	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
5. BBQ BONANZA Cheese, BBQ Sauce, Red Onions, Spicy Beef, Sausage	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
6. TEXAN BBQ BBQ Sauce, Cheese, Onion, Peppers, BBQ Chicken, Bacon	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
7. PEPPERONI FEAST Double Mozzarella, Double Pepperoni	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
8. MILANESE Tomato, Cheese, Ham , Mushrooms	£9.50	£10.50	£12.00	£15.00
9. HAWAIIAN Tomato, Cheese, Ham, Pineapple	£9.50	£10.50	£12.00	£15.00
10. MIGHTY MEATY Tomato, Cheese, Salami, Beef, Chicken, Ham, Bacon, Sausage	£10.30	£12.00	£14.00	£17.00
11. CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA Tomato, Cheese, Chicken Tikka, Onion, Peppers	£10.30	£12.00	£14.00	£17.00
12. NEW YORKER Tomato, Onion & Green Peppers, Cheese, Salami, Beef, Chicken, Ham, Bacon, Sausage	£10.30	£12.00	£14.00	£17.00
13. MEAT LOVERS Tomato, Cheese, Double Salami, Double Pepperoni, Double Ham, Double Beef	£12.00	£14.00	£16.00	£19.00

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MARGHERITA (V) Cheese & Tomato	£9.30	£10.30	£11.50	£14.50
FUNGHI Cheese & Tomato + mushrooms				
SALAMI Cheese Tomato + salami	£9.30	£10.50	£11.80	£14.80
MARINARO Cheese & Tomato + tuna, prawns, anchovies				
CAPRES Cheese & Tomato + salami, mushrooms				
PAZZA Cheese & Tomato + salami, ham				
MILANO Cheese & Tomato + ham, mushrooms				
HAWAIIAN Cheese & Tomato + ham, pineapple				
POLLO Cheese & Tomato + chicken, mushrooms	£9.50	£11.00	£12.00	£15.00
TEXAS Cheese & Tomato + beef, bacon				
DIXIE Cheese & Tomato + ham, bacon				
BOSTON Cheese & Tomato + salami, sausage				
L.A. Cheese & Tomato + ham, beef				
GEORGIA Cheese & Tomato + beef, onions, pepper				
MIAMI (V) Cheese & Tomato + corn, mushrooms, peppers, onions				
BBQ BONANZA Cheese & tomato + BBQ sauce, red onion, spicy beef, sausage				
PEPPERONI FEAST Cheese & Tomato + double mozzarella, double pepperoni	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
PICANTE Cheese & Tomato + salami, peppers, garlic, chilli				

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MEDIUM 12" TRADITIONAL PIZZA £10.95
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Any 2 pizzas+ garlic bread pizza + choice of side order 1-9 on main menu
2 x 9" SMALL £16.95
2 x 12" MEDIUM £19.95
2 x 15" LARGE £22.95
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DIAL A PIZZA SPECIAL Cheese & Tomato + 8 toppings of your choice				
CHICKEN TIKKA MASSALA Cheese & Tomato + chicken tikka, onions, peppers	£10.30	£12.00	£14.30	£17.00
TEXAN BBQ Cheese & Tomato + BBQ sauce, onion, peppers, BBQ chicken, bacon				
DALLAS Cheese & Tomato + ham, salami, chicken, beef, bacon,sausage				
MEAT LOVERS Cheese & Tomato + double salami, double pepperoni, double ham, & double beef	£12.00	£14.00	£16.00	£19.00
CALZONE Cheese & Tomato & ham, salami, mushrooms	£9.80	£11.20	N/A	N/A

SIDE ORDERS

1. Garlic Bread (4 pcs)	£1.50
2. Garlic Bread (4 pcs) with cheese	£2.50
3. French Fries	£1.20
4. Prawn Cocktail	£2.70
5. Potato Wedges	£2.00
6. Mixed Salad	£1.50
7. Coleslaw	£1.40
8. Garlic Mushrooms	£1.70
9. Onion Rings (10 pcs)	£2.00
BBQ Spare Pork Ribs	£4.50
2 Potato Skins + BBQ dip filled with mozzarella	£3.00

SF CHICKEN, Kebabs, Burgers

Chicken Combo (6 pcs) potato wedges + 3 dips	£4.90
Chicken Dipper (6 pcs) + 1 dip	£3.00
Choice of dips – garlic, herb, BBQ, sweet chilli, sour cream and chives	£0.35
BBQ chicken wings (6 pcs) + 1 dip	£3.50
Hot chicken wings (6 pcs) + 1 dip	£3.50
Chicken Burger with mayonnaise, salad,french fries	£3.95
Southern Fried Chicken (2 pcs) with french fries	£3.50
Southern Fried Chicken (3 pcs) with french fries	£4.50
Southern Fried Chicken (4 pcs) with french fries	£5.50
Steak meal with button mushrooms, french fries, salad	£9.00
Doner Kebab – small	£3.50
Doner Kebab – large	£4.50
1/2lb Burger meal with relish, salad, french fries	£3.95

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Did You Know? 15 facts about Christmas Day

1. Pope Julius I declared Christ's birthday as December 25 sometime during the 4th century.

2. The tradition of hanging stockings over the fireplace derived from Dutch children placing their shoes next to the fireplace on Christmas Eve. Stockings later replaced the shoes.

3. Until the turkey, a goose was the most popular fare served at a Christmas meal.

4. The popular Christmas carol Silent Night was written by an Austrian priest named Joseph Mohr in 1818 as a result of a broken church organ.

5. Santa has 31 hours to deliver thanks to the different time zones and the rotation of the earth, assuming he travels east to west.

6. Bing Crosby's Christmas classic "White Christmas" is the best-selling Christmas song of all time.

7. Alabama was the first state in America to proclaim Christmas Day as a legal holiday in 1836.

8. Poet Clark Moore is credited with naming Santa's reindeer; Blitzen, Comet, Cupid, Dancer, Dasher, Doneder, Prancer, and the most famous reindeer, Rudolph.

9. Austria issued the first Christmas stamp in 1937.

10. While working for inventor Thomas Edison, Edward Johnson had lights crafted especially for his Christmas tree leading to the popularisation of Christmas tree light.

11. Mistletoe myth states should a woman appearing under the mistletoe not receive a kiss, she will not marry the following year.

12. The first Christmas card was designed by John Horsley in 1840 but was not sold until 1843.

13. Christmas wreaths of holly and berries are believed to represent Christ's thorns and blood.

14. In Mexico, the poinsettia plant is called "Flower of the Holy Night."

15. Tinsel became a popular Christmas tree adornment after a mythical spider created sprawling webs from branch to branch. It is believe the Christ Child changed the webs to a silver colour.

Count the presents ▲

Christmas wordsearch ▶

CHRIST
SHEPHERDS
KING
MANGER
CHILD
ANGELS
PRINCE
HAY
BABY
SING
PEACE
SWADDLING
BORN
HALLELUJAH
LOVE
MARY
WISEMEN
SAVIOUR
JOSEPH

K	K	N	U	G	U	V	M	Y	S	T	V	F	M	M	T	Q	M	L
B	X	W	G	A	S	R	N	K	D	W	A	V	R	A	Q	D	Z	G
R	Z	I	U	U	D	H	A	N	S	M	V	G	H	H	N	N	Y	N
B	Z	S	H	D	N	L	E	N	Z	I	H	T	A	C	B	G	R	I
U	J	E	I	I	F	O	I	P	G	V	N	L	S	U	C	Z	E	K
E	Q	M	R	N	A	K	Y	H	H	E	L	A	Y	I	K	N	V	R
D	G	E	M	L	T	F	W	P	C	E	L	O	T	R	R	U	W	C
N	C	N	P	R	I	N	C	E	L	Y	R	S	R	L	A	H	R	D
C	D	M	J	S	J	U	E	U	Q	N	C	D	C	X	I	M	C	Q
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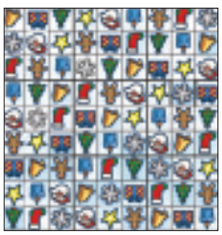
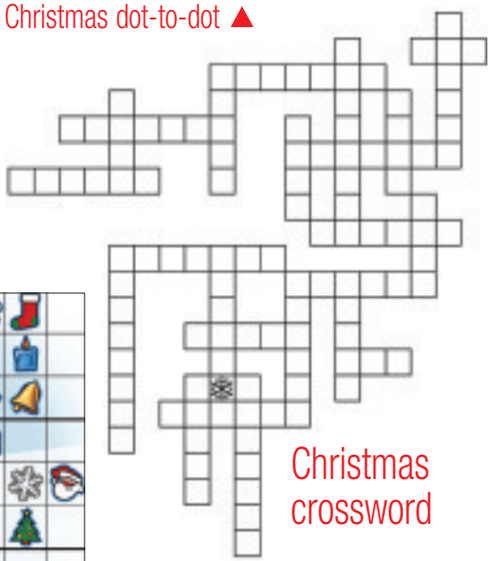
Christmas dot-to-dot ▲



Christmas sudoku ▼



Christmas crossword

Crossword answers

Elf, Toy, Gift, Bell, Tree, Star, Santa, Comet, Cupid, Vixen, Candy, Frosty, Wreath, Dasher, Donner, Sleigh, Dancer, Chimney, Blitzen, Rudolph, Prancer' Snowman, Presents, Reindeer

How many presents?

There are 20 presents in the picture

Try not to laugh -15 of those awful cracker jokes

1. What is Santa's favourite pizza?
Answer: One that's deep pan, crisp and even.

2. How do snowmen get around?
Answer: They ride an icicle.

3. Why would you invite a mushroom to a Christmas party?
Answer: He's a fun guy to be with.

4. What athlete is warmest in winter?
Answer: A long jumper.

5. What's ET short for?
Answer: Because he's only got little legs.

6. What's the fastest thing in water?
Answer: A motor pike.

7. What lies in a pram and wobbles?
Answer: A jelly baby.

8. What do you call a blind dinosaur?
Answers: A doyouthinkhesawus.

9. What do you call a crazy golfer?
Answers: A crack putt

10. What do you call a sick crocodile?
Answer: An illigator.

11. What do you call a train loaded with toffee?
Answer: A chew chew train.

12. Why don't bananas sunbathe?
Answer: Because they'd peel.

13. Why do birds fly south in winter?
Answer: Because it's too far to walk.

14. Why does Santa have three gardens?
Answers: So he can 'ho ho ho'.

15. What carol is heard in the desert?
Answer: O camel ye faithful.

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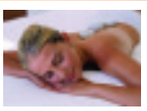

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*Booking fee of £2.50 per telephone transaction applies

My Family Christmas Special, BBC1 Christmas Eve 8.30pm Ben's and Susan's party plans are thrown into chaos when Father Christmas fails to show up

QI Christmas Special, BBC1, Christmas Eve 9.30pm Stephen Fry is joined by Lee Mack, Graham Norton, Alan Davies and Harry Potter star Daniel Radcliffe

The Santa Files with John Sergeant, ITV1, Christmas Eve 5.55pm The broadcaster goes in search of the truth behind the traditional image of Father Christmas

Peep Show Night, Channel 4, Christmas Eve 9pm An evening dedicated to the cult comedy, including a documentary and this year's Christmas special

THURSDAY DECEMBER 23

PRODUCED BY GLOBAL LISTINGS

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.15** Animal 24:7 (R/S) **10.00** Homes Under the Hammer (R/S) **11.00** To Buy or Not To Buy (R/S) **11.30 FILM: The Santa Clause** (1994) (S) **1.00** News; Regional News (S) **1.30** Only Fools and Horses (R/S) **2.25 FILM: Shrek** (2001) (S) **3.50 FILM: The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe** (2005) (S) **6.00** News (S) **6.30** Regional News (S)

7.00 The Nativity Mary goes into labour. (S)
7.30 EastEnders Ryan's shock announcement causes mayhem. (S)
8.00 How Science Changed Our World Professor Robert Winston presents his top ten scientific breakthroughs of the past 50 years. (S)
9.00 New Tricks (R/S)

10.00 News; Regional News (S) **10.35** The Impressions Show Christmas Special (S) **11.05 FILM: Surviving Christmas** (2004) (S) **12.30 FILM: Ooh... You Are Awful** (1972) (S) **2.05** Skiing Weatherview (S) **2.10** Carry on Banking: Panorama (R/S) **2.40** Countryfile Special (R/S) **3.35** The Normans (R/S) **4.35** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.00** CBBC **8.30** Animal Park: Wild in Africa (R/S) **9.15** Climbing Great Buildings (R/S) **9.45** Britain by Bike (R/S) **10.15 FILM: Born Yesterday** (1950) **11.55 FILM: On Moonlight Bay** (1951) (S) **1.25** The Hairy Bikers: Mums Know Best at Christmas (R/S) **2.25** Ready Steady Cook (R/S) **3.10 FILM: Mackenna's Gold** (1969) (S) **5.15** Escape to the Country (R/S) **6.00** Celebrity Eggheads (S) **6.30** Yellowstone (R/S)

7.30 Are You Being Served? Christmas special. (R)
8.00 The Two Ronnies Christmas Special Elaine Paige joins the comedians. (R/S)
9.00 Being Ronnie Corbett Charting the comedian's long career. (S)
10.00 The Two Ronnies: The Studio Recordings Unedited takes of some of the duo's classic sketches. (S)
10.30 Ronnie Barker: A Bafta Tribute A one-off gala tribute celebrating the comedian's remarkable career. (R/S)

11.30 The Goodies. Classic comedy. (R) **12.00** Medium (R/S) **12.40** Medium (R/S) **1.25** News (S) **4.35** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** Jeremy Kyle Show: Make a Wish Lapland Special (S) **10.30** This Morning (S) **12.30** Loose Women (S) **1.30** News (S) **2.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot (R/S) **3.00** Midsomer Murders (S) **5.00** The Unforgettable Spike Milligan (S) **6.00** News (S)

7.00 Emmerdale Cain is furious because Carl is cheating on Chas. (S)
7.30 Bond of Brothers: Tonight The story of former conjoined twins Hassan and Hussein Benhaffaf. (S)
8.00 Emmerdale Will Chas give in to her feelings for Carl? (S)
8.30 Coronation Street Can Steve ever forgive Becky? (S)
9.00 Live Celebrity Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Contestants include Chris Evans, James Martin and Carol Vorderman. (S)

10.15 News (S) **10.50** Carols at Christmas (S) **11.50 FILM: Jesus Christ Superstar** (1973) (S) **1.45 FILM: Lorenzo's Oil** (1992) (R/S) **4.00** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.20 Freshly Squeezed **6.50** One Tree Hill (S) **7.35** Frasier (R/S) **8.05** According to Jim (R/S) **8.30** T4: The Hollyoaks Music Show Christmas Special (R/S) **9.35** Friends (R/S) **10.05** Being... N-Dubz at Christmas (R/S) **11.05** Glee (R/S) **12.05** Friends (R/S) **12.35 FILM: Dr Dolittle 3** (2006) (S) **2.20 FILM: Miracle on 34th Street** (1947) (S) **4.10** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa (S) **5.00** Simpsons (S) **5.30** Prep and Landing (S) **6.00** Hollyoaks (S) **6.30** Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 News (S)
8.00 Christmas with Gordon Delicious Christmas recipes. (S)
9.00 The House That Made Me Jamelia makes an emotional trip to a re-creation of her childhood home. (S)
10.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Christmas Special Hosted by Jimmy Carr. (S)

10.50 Alan Carr: Chatty Man (R/S) **11.55** Frankie Boyle's Tramadol Nights (R/S) **12.30** The Morgana Show (R/S) **1.00** King of the Hill (S) **1.25 FILM: Lantana** (2001) (S) **3.25 FILM: Boy on a Dolphin** (1957) (S) **5.15** One Tree Hill (S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **10.15** Penguin Week with Nigel Marven (R/S) **10.45** Zoo Days (R/S) **11.20** News (S) **11.30 FILM: Home for Christmas** (1990) Heartwarming drama starring Mickey Rooney. (S) **1.30** Neighbours (S) **2.00** CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (R/S) **2.55 FILM: Cannonball Run II** (1984) Action with Burt Reynolds. (S) **5.00** News (S) **5.30** Neighbours (R/S) **6.00** Monkey Life (S) **6.25** Live from Studio Five (S)

7.00 News (S)
7.30 Street Market Chefs RAF cooks rustle up a tasty meal using free-range Yorkshire pork. (S)
8.00 Demolition: The Unsinkable Ship The complex process behind the decommissioning of a 40-year-old US naval ship. (S)
9.00 FILM: 300 (2006) Historical epic starring Gerard Butler, Lena Headey and Dominic West. (S)

11.20 The Gadget Show's Christmas Stocking (R/S) **12.15** Supercasino **3.55** World Poker Tour Paris (R/S) **4.45** House Doctor (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge (R/S)

CHRISTMAS EVE

(R) Repeat (S) Subtitles

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00** Horrible Histories: Horrible Christmas (R/S) **9.30** The Slammer (R/S) **10.00** Christmas Kitchen (S) **11.30 FILM: The Santa Clause 2** (2002) (S) **1.10** News; Regional News (S) **1.35** Only Fools and Horses (R/S) **2.35** Jimmy's Christmas Food Factory (R/S) **3.05 FILM: Cars** (2006) **4.55** Shrek the Halls (R/S) **5.15 FILM: The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian** (2008) (S)

7.35 News; Regional News (S)
8.00 EastEnders Peter has a shocking parting shot for Ian before leaving. (S)
8.30 My Family Christmas Special (S)
9.30 QI Christmas Special (S)
10.00 Have I Got News for You Christmas Special (S)
10.30 The Graham Norton Show Guests include Matt Lucas, David Walliams and Matt Smith. (S)

11.15 The National Lottery: 25 Christmas Millionaires (S) **11.30** News (S) **11.45** Midnight Mass: Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral (S) **1.15 FILM: The Money Pit** (1986) With Tom Hanks. (S) **2.40** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.00** CBBC **8.45** Animal Park: Wild in Africa (R/S) **9.30** Climbing Great Buildings (R/S) **10.00 FILM: The Fox and the Child** (2007) (S) **11.30 FILM: Suspicion** (1941) Classic Hitchcock thriller with Cary Grant. **1.05 FILM: She Wore a Yellow Ribbon** (1949) **2.45** Mozart's Don Giovanni from Glyndebourne (S) **5.45** Celebrity Eggheads (S) **6.15** Dad's Army (R) **6.45** Carols from King's (S)

8.00 Edwardian Farm Alex and Peter experience 'fisherman-farming' on an Edwardian trawler. (S)
9.00 Whistle and I'll Come to You Chilling Edwardian ghost story with John Hurt and Gemma Jones. (S)
9.55 The Many Faces of Alison Steadman The actor discusses her impressive career, featuring interviews and archive footage. (S)

10.55 Gavin and Stacey Christmas Special (R/S) **11.55** The Worst Christmas of My Life (R/S) **12.25** The Goodies and the Beanstalk (R) **1.10** Medium (R/S) **1.55** Medium (R/S) **2.35** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** This Morning: Christmas Crackers (S) **10.40 FILM: Casper** (1995) (S) **12.30** News (S) **12.55 FILM: Miracle on 34th Street** (1994) (S) **3.00** The Queen (S) **4.55** Countrywise at Christmas (R/S) **5.55** The Santa Files with John Sergeant (S) **6.50** News (S)

7.00 Emmerdale On the eve of the wedding, Chas continues to harbour doubts. (S)
7.30 Coronation Street A surprise arrival shocks the street. (S)
8.00 You've Been Framed Christmas (R/S)
8.30 Coronation Street Emotions run high as a fight breaks out in the Rovers. (S)
9.00 Paul O'Grady's Christmas With Bette Midler, Cilla Black, David Haye and Danny Miller. (S)

10.00 News (S)
10.15 FILM: The Holiday (2006) Seasonal romantic comedy with Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet and Jude Law. (S)

12.45 Christmas Tales: Angels (R/S) **1.40 FILM: Dead Calm** (1988) (S) **3.20** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.05 The Treacle People (R/S) **6.15** Yo Gabba Gabba (R/S) **6.40** Freshly Squeezed **7.10** Frasier (R/S) **7.35** According to Jim (R/S) **8.00 FILM: Olive the Other Reindeer** (1999) (S) **9.00** T4: Friends (R/S) **10.00** The Simpsons (R/S) **10.30** Cheryl Cole T4 Special (R/S) **10.45** Glee (R/S) **11.40 FILM: Jingle All the Way** (1996) (S) **1.20 FILM: The Snowman** (S) **1.50** Prep and Landing (R/S) **2.20** Celebrity Come Dine with Me Back-to-back episodes. (R/S) **5.00** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa (S) **6.00 FILM: A Christmas Carol** (2004) (S) **7.40 News** (S)

8.00 One Born at Christmas The race for the first yuletide baby begins. (S)
9.00 Peep Show and Tell Behind-the-scenes documentary. (S)
10.05 Peep Show Mark invites his parents over for Christmas lunch. (S)

10.40 Peep Show (R/S) **11.15** Peep Show (R/S) **11.50** Chris Moyles' Christmas Quiz Night (R/S) **12.40** The Moonbird (S) **12.55 FILM: Hero** (2002) (S) **2.35** King of the Hill (S) **3.00** This Week's 4Music Top 20 (S) **4.45** ER (R/S) **5.30** One Tree Hill (S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **10.35** Penguin Week with Nigel Marven (R/S) **11.05** Zoo Days (R/S) **11.15** Zoo Days (R/S) **11.45** News (S) **11.55 FILM: I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus** (2001) Festive fun starring Connie Sellecca. (S) **1.40** Neighbours (S) **2.10 FILM: Single Santa Seeks Mrs Claus** (2004) Seasonal romance starring Steve Guttenberg. (S) **4.00 FILM: Scrooge: A Christmas Carol** (1951) Dickens' classic tale starring Alastair Sim and Mervyn Johns. (S) **5.45** Neighbours (R/S) **6.15** Monkey Life (S) **6.45 FILM: Last Action Hero** (1993) Action adventure with Arnold Schwarzenegger and F Murray Abraham. (S)

9.00 Greatest Christmas TV Moments A three-hour countdown of some of the best festive telly ever. Highlights include scenes from Only Fools nd Horses, Morecambe and Wise and The Royle Family. (S)

12.05 Supercasino **4.05** Divine Designs (R/S) **4.30** Street Market Chefs (R/S) **4.55** Rough Guide to Adventures (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge (R/S)

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Nostrovia – sheer excellence

I'M not sure exactly what it was we were expecting when my colleagues and I received our tickets for the office party at The Bowl's Nostrovia, but the venue astounded everyone I spoke to.

The night was surreal from the start. Upon arrival I looked through the glass-door entrance only to see a beautiful woman in a hoop metres above the crowd. I was already impressed – but that was nothing compared to the rest of the evening that lay ahead.

After greeting colleagues, I made my way to the bar and whilst waiting to be served, watched a show above – yes, above – the bar.

First, two hunky-looking men throwing fire around (who could ask for anything more?) and then two attractive women dancing with flags.

I then looked to my left only to find another muscular male form holding up a red flag on stage.

I was already so astounded – and that's before I tried the food and watched the main shows.

After a few minutes, we were called to dinner and were directed to a glamorous candle-lit dining area, complete with decorative domes and a massive central stage.

We were treated to a three-course meal which was truly outstanding – my favourite being the exquisite desert – a chocolate pudding with a

rich melting chocolate centre. Then came the show.

Acrobats and dancers filled the stage and wowed us with their spectacular moves. Time and time again.

The show was also broken up into smaller performance with a few minutes in between, giving us time to top-up our glasses and socialise with the table.

And although I did not take part personally, many of my colleagues also enjoyed the dodgems. They were said to be fantastic, but I was enjoying the atmosphere inside so much I did not even notice them.

Shame – they sounded like good fun.

It is always said that office parties are essential for team-building and improving communication within an office environment, and there is nowhere better than Nostrovia for this.

The relaxed atmosphere and thrilling food and entertainment is sure to get you talking.

Kirsten Rawlins

COMPETITION

Win a his and hers top-to-toe spa day

MK NEWS has teamed up with the award-winning four star deluxe Whittlebury Hall Hotel and Spa, set in rural Northamptonshire, to offer you the chance to win the perfect midweek treat – a his and hers top-to-toe spa day for two* worth £200.

The luxurious Spa Day includes a two-course buffet lunch in The Terrace Cafe on day of arrival and departure, and full use of the heat and ice experiences and the leisure club facilities.

The men's day will include a 75-minute Elemis urban cleanse facial and a 25-minute Elemis deep tissue back massage.

The ladies' day will include a 25-minute express facial, 25 minute back, neck and shoulder massage, a 45-minute Jessica prescriptive manicure or a 55-minute Jessica zen spa pedicure.

*Terms and conditions apply: Subject to availability, available Monday-Thursday only. Offer valid until March 31, 2010 inclusive, excluding Valentine's period. Full non-refundable, non-transferable payment required at the time of booking. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer or promotion. Spa days to be taken together and the treatments on the same day.

HOW TO ENTER

TO be in with a chance of winning, simply answer the following question:

Who wrote the classic novel A Christmas Carol?

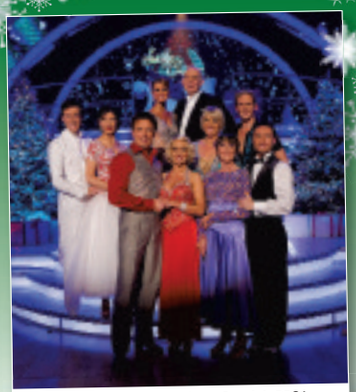
Answers, complete with name, address and daytime telephone number, should be sent to competitions@mk-news.co.uk.

Editor's decision is final.

Closing date December 22.

Doctor Who, BBC1, Christmas Day 6pm
Michael Gambon and Katherine Jenkins guest star in this year's seasonal outing for the Doctor (Matt Smith)

Agatha Christie's Poirot, ITV1, Christmas Day 9pm
David Suchet gets to grips with the crime writer's most famous mystery in *Murder on the Orient Express*



Strictly Come Dancing Christmas Special, BBC1, Christmas Day 7pm Celebs including June Brown, Fern Britton and John Barrowman take to the floor

Benidorm Christmas Special, ITV1, Boxing Day 9pm
Louie Spence stars as a friend of Jacqueline's and Donald's who helps them enjoy a swinging Christmas

CHRISTMAS DAY

PRODUCED BY GLOBAL LISTINGS

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00** The Sarah Jane Adventures (R/S) **9.50** Shaun the Sheep (R/S) **10.00** Christmas Day Eucharist from Tewkesbury Abbey (S) **11.00 FILM: The Santa Clause 3** (2006) (S) **12.25 FILM: Madagascar** (2005) (S) **1.45** News (S) **2.00** Top of the Pops Christmas 2010 (S) **3.00** The Queen's Speech (S) **3.10 FILM: Shrek the Third** (2007) **4.30** The Gruffalo (R/S) **5.00** News (S) **5.10** The One Ronnie (S) **6.00** Doctor Who (S)

7.00 Strictly Come Dancing Christmas Special (S)
8.00 EastEnders Janine carries out her final act of revenge against Stacey. (S)
9.00 The Royle Family Barbara faces a hectic Christmas. (S)
10.00 NEW Come Fly With Me Matt Lucas and David Walliams star in this mockumentary set in an airport. (S)

10.30 News (S) **10.45** On Christmas Night (S) **10.50 FILM: Starsky and Hutch** (2004) (S) **12.25 FILM: A Fish Called Wanda** (1988) (S) **2.10** Weatherview (S) **2.15** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.00** CBBC **8.55** Animal Park (R/S) **9.55 FILM: The Meerkats** (S) **11.15 FILM: Singin' in the Rain** (1952) (S) **12.55 FILM: The Man Who Would Be King** (1975) (S) **3.00** Birmingham Royal Ballet's Cinderella (S) **5.00** The Queen's Speech (S) **5.10** The Private Life of a Christmas Masterpiece (S) **6.00** Carols for Christmas Day from Winchester Cathedral (S)

7.00 Top Gear The presenters embark on an epic road trip on America's east coast. (R/S)
8.00 Dad's Army Captain Mainwaring tries to get an orange for his wife. (R/S)
8.35 Blackadder's Christmas Carol A Victorian Ebenezer Blackadder is paid a visit by his loathsome ancestors. (R/S)
9.20 Swingin' Christmas A celebration of the 'golden age of Swing' with the John Wilson Orchestra. (S)

10.45 Miranda (R/S) **11.15** Have I Got a Bit More News for You (R/S) **12.00** Being Ronnie Corbett (R/S) **1.00** TOTP2 Christmas (R/S) **2.30** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 The Fluffy Club (R/S) **7.25** Toonattik (S) **8.05 FILM: The Little Polar Bear** (2003) **9.25** Carols at Christmas (R/S) **9.50** Family Film of the Decade (R/S) **10.50 FILM: Santa Claus: The Movie** (1984) **12.55** News (S) **1.10 FILM: The Polar Express** (2004) **3.00** HM the Queen (S) **3.10 FILM: The Grinch** (2000) (S) **5.00** News (S) **5.15** You've Been Framed Christmas (S) **6.00** Emmerdale (S)

7.00 Coronation Street Some residents face spending Christmas Day alone following the catastrophe. (S)
8.00 All Star Family Fortunes Emmerdale stars go head-to-head with This Morning presenters. (S)
9.00 Agatha Christie's Poirot The sleuth has to solve a murder while travelling on the Orient Express. (S)

11.00 News (S) **11.15 FILM: You, Me and Dupree** (2006) Chaotic comedy starring Owen Wilson, Matt Dillon and Kate Hudson. **1.40 FILM: Clockwise** (1986) (S) **3.05 FILM: Police Academy** (1984) (S) **4.40** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.20 Famous Fred (R/S) **6.45** Little Wolf's Book of Badness (R/S) **7.15** T4: Friends (R/S) **7.45** The Simpsons **8.15** Friends (R/S) **8.50 FILM: The Muppets Christmas Carol** (1992) **10.30** The Simpsons (R/S) **11.00** Glee (R/S) **12.00** One Born at Christmas (S) **1.00 FILM: Scrooged** (1988) (S) **2.50** One Born at Christmas (S) **3.50** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa (S) **4.50** One Born at Christmas (S) **5.50** News (S) **5.55** Come Dine with Me: Celebrity Christmas Special (R/S)

7.00 FILM: Edward Scissorhands (1990) Dark fantasy starring Johnny Depp and Dianne Wiest. (S)
9.00 One Born at Christmas An update on all that's happened on the maternity ward. (S)

10.00 Alan Carr Toothfairy Live (R/S) **11.05** Jamie's Christmas Lock-in (R/S) **12.10 FILM: Carrie** (1976) **1.55** The Real Housewives of New Jersey (S) **2.40** King of the Hill (S) **3.00** Brothers and Sisters (R/S) **3.50** ER (R/S) **4.35** One Tree Hill (S) **5.15** One Tree Hill (S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **10.35** Ice Road Truckers (R/S) **11.30** The Gadget Show's Christmas Stocking (R/S) **12.30 FILM: Mrs Miracle** (2009) Drama starring James Van Der Beek and Doris Roberts. (S) **2.30 FILM: Meet the Santas** (2005) Comedy sequel starring Steve Guttenberg and Crystal Bernard. (S) **4.20** News (S) **4.25 FILM: The Remains of the Day** (1993) Drama starring Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson. (S) **6.55 FILM: Stranger Than Fiction** (2006) Comedy starring Will Ferrell and Maggie Gyllenhaal. A taxman is staggered to discover that he is a character in a novelist's new book, and can hear the author narrating his life. (S)

9.00 Greatest Christmas Adverts A rundown of the nation's all-time favourite festive television commercials, featuring the good, the bad and the ugly ads, alongside commentary from the actors who starred in them. (S)

12.05 Supercasino **4.05** World Poker Tour Paris (R/S) **4.55** The Family Recipe (R/S) **5.00** Milkshake

BOXING DAY

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00** CBeebies Panto (R/S) **9.30** Grandpa in My Pocket: Christmas Special (R/S) **9.45 FILM: Who Framed Roger Rabbit?** (1988) **11.20** News (S) **11.25 FILM: Spy Kids** (2001) (S) **12.50 FILM: The Ant Bully** (2006) (S) **2.10 FILM: Over the Hedge** (2006) (S) **3.25 FILM: Enchanted** (2007) (S) **5.05** News; Regional News (S) **5.15** Songs of Praise **6.00** Nigel Slater's Christmas Suppers (S) **6.30** Countryfile (S)

7.30 Antiques Roadshow Finds include a painting thought to be by Constable. (S)
8.30 EastEnders The Square comes to terms with Stacey's departure. (S)
9.00 NEW Upstairs Downstairs Revival of the drama. Sir Hallam Holland and his wife set about restoring the dilapidated house they've inherited. (S)

10.00 News (S) **10.15 Match of the Day** Manchester United host Sunderland. (S) **11.45** The Football League Show (S) **1.05 FILM: Iron Eagle** (1985) (S) **2.55** Weatherview (S) **3.00** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.00** CBBC **8.55 FILM: Kiss Me Kate** (1953) Musical Shakespeare adaptation with Howard Keel and Kathryn Grayson. (S) **10.40** Wild China (R/S) **11.40** Who Do You Think You Are? (R/S) **12.40 FILM: Anchors Aweigh** (1945) Musical starring Gene Kelly and Frank Sinatra. (S) **2.55 FILM: We Dive at Dawn** (1943) World War II drama starring John Mills and Louis Bradfield. (S) **4.30** Final Score (S) **5.25 FILM: The Red Baron** (2008) World War I drama with Til Schweiger. (S)

7.00 Oz and Hugh Raise the Bar The presenters attempt to make their own version of Irish Cream. (S)
8.00 Top Gear Special The presenters attempt to follow the path of the Three Wise Men. (S)
9.15 When Harvey Met Bob Feature-length dramatisation following the story of Live Aid. (S)

10.45 Live Aid: Rockin' All Over the World (R/S) **12.15** The Goodies (R) **12.45** Medium (R/S) **1.25** Medium (R/S) **2.10** News (S) **3.00** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 The Fluffy Club (R/S) **7.25** Toonattik (S) **9.25** You've Been Framed Christmas (R/S) **10.10 FILM: Jack Frost** (1998) (S) **12.05** News (S) **12.15 FILM: The Railway Children** (1970) (S) **2.20 FILM: From Time to Time** (2009). **4.10 FILM: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** (2005) Retelling of Roald Dahl's classic children's story, starring Johnny Depp. (S) **6.15** News (S) **6.20 FILM: The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor** (2008) Action adventure sequel starring Brendan Fraser, Jet Li and Maria Bello. (S)

8.30 Harry Hill's Best of Christmas TV Burp A compilation of previous yuletide blooper specials. (S)
9.00 Benidorm Christmas Special At yuletide on the Costa Blanca, the Garveys are staying with Mel and Madge in their villa. (S)
10.15 FILM: Love Actually (2003) Romantic comedy with Hugh Grant and Keira Knightley. (S)

1.05 Paul O'Grady's Christmas (R/S) **2.05 FILM: Idlewild** (2006) (S) **4.05** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.05 The Treacle People (R/S) **6.15** Planet Cook (R) **6.35 FILM: Rugrats Go Wild** (2003) Animated comedy featuring the voices of Bruce Willis and Chrissie Hynde. (S) **7.55** The Morning Line (S) **8.50** T4: Hollyoaks Omnibus (R/S) **11.20** The Simpsons **11.45** Beyonce: I am... World Tour (R/S) **12.45** Jamie's Best Ever Christmas (R/S) **1.45** Channel 4 Racing (S) **3.55** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa (S) **5.00** News (S) **5.10 FILM: Crocodile Dundee** (1986) Antipodean comedy with Paul Hogan and Linda Kozlowski. (S)

6.55 100 Greatest Toys A countdown of the nation's favourite toys and games, with Jonathan Ross. (R/S)
10.00 Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special The host chats to Chris Evans and Mickey Rourke. (S)

11.05 Steve Coogan as Alan Partridge and Other Less Successful Characters (S) **11.50** 8 Out of 10 Cats Christmas Special (R/S) **12.40** King of the Hill (S) **1.05** American Football Live **4.45** ER (R/S) **5.30** One Tree Hill (S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **11.45** Animal Rescue Squad (R/S) **12.05** Zoo Days (R/S) **12.35 FILM: Behold a Pale Horse** (1964) Complex drama starring Gregory Peck and Anthony Quinn. (S) **2.50** News (S) **3.00 FILM: High Society** (1956) Classic musical starring Frank Sinatra and Bing Crosby. (S) **5.10 FILM: Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat** (1999) Film version of the musical starring Donny Osmond and Maria Friedman. (S) **6.40** Top of the Pops Christmas 1985 (S)

7.55 Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em Xmas 1974 Michael Crawford stars in the comedy classic. (S)
9.00 The Likely Lads Christmas 1974 Rodney Bewes and James Bolam star in a festive favourite from yesteryear. (S)
10.00 FILM: Out for a Kill (2003) Action thriller starring Steven Seagal and Michelle Goh. (S)

11.45 America's Toughest Prisons (R/S) **12.45** Supercasino **4.05** Divine Designs (R/S) **4.35** Divine Designs (R/S) **4.55** The Family Recipe (R/S) **5.00** Milkshake

HOLIDAY MONDAY 27

(R) Repeat (S) Subtitles

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **7.30** Match of the Day (R/S) **9.00** The Sarah Jane Adventures (R/S) **9.25** The Slammer (R/S) **10.00 FILM: Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams** (2002) **11.40** EastEnders (R/S) **1.40** News; Regional News (S) **1.55** EastEnders (R/S) **3.25 FILM: The Incredibles** (2004) (S) **5.10** News; Regional News (S) **5.40** The Impressions Show Christmas Special (R/S) **6.10** Halcyon River Diaries (S) **7.10 Casualty** (S) **8.00 EastEnders** (S)

8.30 NEW Celebrity Mastermind Contestants include Mark Lawrenson, Hilary Kay and Richard Herring. (S)
9.00 Upstairs Downstairs The servants are intrigued by a new arrival. (S)

10.00 News; Regional News (S) **10.25 A Question of Sport** Guests include Len Goodman and Anton Du Beke. (S) **10.55** The Graham Norton Show (R/S) **11.40 FILM: Wild Hogs** (2007) (S) **1.15** Weatherview (S) **1.20** Sign Zone: The Apprentice, The Final (R/S) **2.20** Holby City (R/S) **3.20** The Big Silence (R/S) **4.20** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.00** CBBC **8.30** Animal Park (R/S) **9.15** Great British Railway Journeys (R/S) **9.45** Indian Hill Railways (R/S) **10.45** Wild China (R/S) **11.45** Who Do You Think You Are? (R/S) **12.45** Racing from Chepstow: Welsh Grand National (S) **3.00** Coast (R/S) **3.10** Flog It (R/S) **3.40 FILM: Hidalgo** (2004) Action adventure with Viggo Mortensen and Omar Sharif. (S) **5.45** James May's Top Toys (R/S) **6.45** Top Gear Special (R/S)

8.00 Three Men Go to Scotland Griff Rhys-Jones, Rory McGrath and Dara O Briain visit the Hebrides. (S)
9.00 Oz and Hugh Raise the Bar The presenters taste the most Northern wine in the UK. (S)
10.00 Charlie Brooker's 2010 Wipe The acerbic journalist takes an irreverent look at the past year. (S)

11.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. With guest host Josh Groban. (R/S) **11.30** The Goodies (R) **12.00** The Grumpy Guide to Christmas (R/S) **1.00** Medium (R/S) **1.40** Medium (R/S) **2.20** News (S) **4.20** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 The Fluffy Club (S) **7.00** Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** Coronation Street Omnibus (R/S) **12.15** You've Been Framed (R/S) **12.45** News (S) **12.55** Midsomer Murders (R/S) **3.00 FILM: March of the Penguins** (2005) (S) **4.35 FILM: Happy Feet** (2006) Animation voiced by Elijah Wood and Brittany Murphy. (S) **6.30** News (S)

7.00 Emmerdale Chas cannot resist taking out her anger on Eve. Katie grows weary of Andy's behaviour. (S)
7.30 Coronation Street Tracy and the McDonalds clash over Amy. (S)
8.00 You've Been Framed More camcorder calamities. (R/S)
8.30 Coronation Street Tracy revels in the friction she is creating between Steve and Becky. (S)
9.00 Agatha Christie's Marple Attending a diplomatic gathering, the resolute sleth has to solve a murder case. (S)

11.00 News (S) **11.15** Benidorm Christmas Special (R/S) **12.30** Rugby Highlights: Aviva Premiership (S) **1.20** Surface (R/S) **2.10** Surface (R/S) **2.55** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.10 World Sport (S) **6.35** Audi Med Cup (S) **7.00** Everybody Loves Raymond (R/S) **7.25** Frasier (R/S) **7.50** According to Jim (R/S) **8.20** T4: Friends (R/S) **8.50** Ugly Betty (S) **9.45** Friends (R/S) **10.15** Simpsons (R/S) **10.45** Ugly Betty (S) **11.40** Simpsons (R/S) **12.15 FILM: Benji the Hunted** (1987) (S) **1.55 FILM: Ladyhawke** (1985) **4.10** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa (S) **5.00** Celebrity Come Dine with Me (R/S) **6.00** Simpsons (R/S) **6.30** Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 News (S)
7.10 FILM: Porridge (1979) TV spin-off. (S)
9.00 Lee Evans: Access All Arenas Compilation taken from the comedian's arena tours. (S)
10.00 Lee Evans: Up Close Phill Jupitus chats to the comedian. (S)

10.35 FILM: There's Something About Mary (1998) Comedy with Cameron Diaz and Ben Stiller. (S) **12.50** Premier League Poker (S) **1.45** The Real Housewives of New Jersey (S) **2.30** King of the Hill (S) **2.55** King of the Hill (S) **3.15 FILM: Fathom** (1967) (S) **4.55** ER (R/S) **5.40** One Tree Hill (S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **10.35** Panda Week with Nigel Marven (R/S) **11.05** Zoo Days (R/S) **11.35** Ice Road Truckers (R/S) **12.35** News (S) **12.40** Top of the Pops Christmas 1985 (R/S) **2.00** The Likely Lads Christmas 1974 (R/S) **3.00** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em Xmas 1974 (R/S) **4.00** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S) **5.05 FILM: Rooster Cogburn** (1975) Western with John Wayne and Katharine Hepburn. (R/S)

7.05 Cowboy Builders Melinda and Dom meet a family who were left with a derelict house. (R/S)
8.00 There's a Hippo in my House! The tale of a South African couple who adopted one of the most dangerous mammals in the world. (S)
9.00 Greatest Christmas TV Moments A countdown of some of festive telly's finest ever programmes. (S)

12.05 John Cleese's Comedy Heroes (R/S) **1.05** Supercasino **3.55** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S) **4.45** House Doctor (R/S) **5.10** Michaela's Wild Challenge (R/S) **5.35** Great Scientists (R/S)

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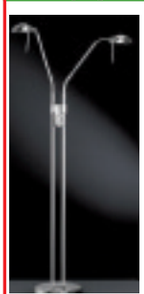
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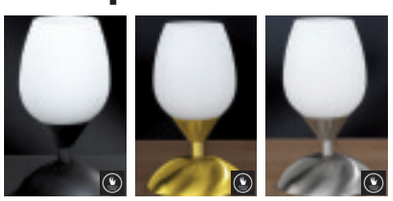

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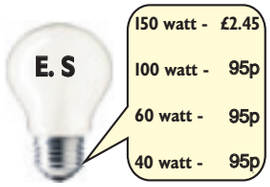

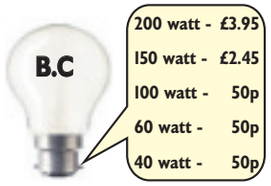

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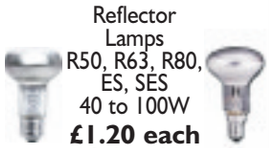
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Agatha Christie's Marple, ITV1, Wednesday 8pm Marple tries to stop a court case when she finds new evidence

Rock and Chips, BBC1, Wednesday 9pm Find out what Peckham life was like before Del Boy in this period prequel to Only Fools and Horses

Just William, BBC1, Tuesday 12.30pm Daniel Roche stars in this new series based on Richmal Compton's novels

HOLIDAY TUESDAY 28

PRODUCED BY GLOBAL LISTINGS

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00** The Sarah Jane Adventures (R/S) **9.25** The Slammer (R/S) **10.10 FILM: Spy Kids 3: Game Over** (2003) (S) **11.25 FILM: Return to Neverland** (2002) (S) **12.30** NEW Just William (S) **1.00** News; Regional News (S) **1.15** Wallace and Gromit: A Grand Day Out (R/S) **1.40** Doctor Who (R/S) **2.40** Robbie the Reindeer in Close Encounters of the Herd Kind (R/S) **3.10 FILM: Chicken Run** (2000) (S) **4.30** Final Score (S) **5.25** Countryfile Winter Special (R/S) **6.20** News; Regional News (S)

7.00 Celebrity Mastermind With Giles Coren and Dr Pixie McKenna. (S)
7.30 EastEnders (S)
8.00 Holby City (S)
9.00 Upstairs, Downstairs (S)
10.00 News; Regional News (S)
10.25 Live at the Apollo (S)
11.10 FILM: Blades of Glory (2007) Sports comedy with Will Ferrell. (S)

12.40 Weatherview (S) **12.45** Sign Zone: Highgrove, Alan Meets Prince Charles (R/S) **1.45** Upstairs, Downstairs (R/S) **2.45 Sign Zone**

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.00** CBBC **8.35** Great British Railway Journeys (R/S) **9.05** Indian Hill Railways (R/S) **10.05** Wild China (R/S) **11.05** Who Do You Think You Are? (R/S) **12.05** Victorian Farm Christmas (R/S) **1.05 FILM: The Fall of the Roman Empire** (1964) (S) **4.00** Escape to the Country (R/S) **5.00** The Indian Doctor (R/S) **5.45** The Weakest Link (S) **6.30 FILM: Miss Potter** (2006) (S)

8.00 Penelope Keith: Lady of the Manor A tribute to the actress. (R/S)
8.30 The Good Life (R)
9.00 All About The Good Life Exploring the enduring appeal of one of the nation's best loved sitcoms. (S)
10.00 Giles and Sue Live the Good Life The presenters attempt to enjoy a cash-strapped Christmas. (S)
11.00 2010 Unwrapped with Miranda Hart The comedian takes a look back at the defining cultural, political and televisual moments of the year. (S)

12.00 The Goodies (R) **12.30** Medium (R/S) **1.10** Medium (R/S) **1.55** News (S) **4.05** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 The Fluffy Club (S) **7.00** Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** The Unforgettable Terry Scott (R/S) **9.55** Joanna Lumley's Nile (R/S) **10.55 FILM: Agatha Christie's Thirteen at Dinner** (1985) (S) **12.55** News (S) **1.05** Midsomer Murders (R/S) **2.40 FILM: E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial** (1982) Heartwarming fantasy starring Henry Thomas. (S) **4.50 FILM: Robots** (2005) Animated comedy with the voices of Ewan McGregor and Robin Williams. (S) **6.30** News (S)

7.00 Emmerdale (S)
7.30 River Monsters Last in series. (S)
8.00 Smile: This Was Candid Camera Marking the 50th anniversary of the popular show. (S)
9.00 FILM: I Am Legend (2007) Thriller starring Will Smith. (S)
10.50 News (S)
11.05 FILM: The Break-Up (2006) Romantic comedy with Vince Vaughn. (S)
1.00 FILM: A Shock to the System (1990) Comic crime caper with Michael Caine. (S)
2.30 The Rockford Files (S)
3.25 Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.30 Planet Cook (R/S) **6.50** Yo Gabba Gabba (R/S) **7.15** Everybody Loves Raymond (R/S) **7.40** Frasier (R/S) **8.00** According to Jim (R/S) **8.30** T4: Friends (R/S) **9.00** 4Music Favourites (R/S) **9.30** Shooting Nicole Scherzinger (R/S) **10.00** Friends (R/S) **10.30** The Simpsons (R/S) **11.00** Glee (R) **12.00 FILM: Explorers** (1985) (S) **2.05 FILM: Crocodile Dundee II** (1988) (S) **4.10** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa (S) **5.00** Celebrity Come Dine with Me (R/S) **6.00** The Simpsons (R/S) **6.30** Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 News (S)
7.15 One Born at Christmas (S)
9.00 The Miracle Baby of Haiti A baby who survived the Haiti earthquake. (S)
10.00 Frankie Boyle's Tramadol Nights (S)
10.35 The Morgana Show (S)
11.05 Peep Show (R/S)
11.40 The Big Bang Theory (S)

12.10 Music on 4: The Crush (S) **1.15** FIVB World Tour (S) **2.05** KOTV Boxing Weekly (S) **2.35** World Sport (R/S) **3.00 FILM: The Cat Returns** (2002) (S) **4.20** ER (R) **5.05** Deadliest Catch (R)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **10.35** Panda Week with Nigel Marven (R/S) **11.05** Ice Road Truckers (R/S) **12.05** News (S) **12.15** How To Hook Up Your Home Theater **12.20 FILM: The Winslow Boy** (1999) Period drama starring Nigel Hawthorne and Jeremy Northam. (S) **2.20 FILM: David Copperfield** (2000) Dickens' classic starring Sally Field and Anthony Andrews. (S) **6.05** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S)

7.00 Cowboy Builders Melinda and Dom meet a family that has endured 18 months of misery. (R/S)
8.00 Greatest Christmas Adverts A rundown of the nation's all-time favourite festive commercials. (R/S)
11.00 FILM: Red Corner (1997) Legal thriller starring Richard Gere and Bai Ling. An American media lawyer on a business trip to China is framed for murdering a woman. (S)

1.20 Supercasino **3.55** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S) **4.45** House Doctor (R/S) **5.10** Nick's Quest (R/S) **5.35** Great Scientists (R/S)

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 29

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00** The Sarah Jane Adventures (R) **9.30** Ooglies (R/S) **9.45 FILM: A Goofy Movie** (1995) (S) **10.55 FILM: Homeward Bound II: Lost in San Francisco** (1996) (S) **12.20** Just William (S) **12.50** News; Regional News (S) **1.05** Wallace and Gromit: A Close Shave (R/S) **1.35** Doctor Who Christmas Special (R/S) **2.50 FILM: Flushed Away** (2006) (S) **4.05 FILM: Mary Poppins** (1964) (S) **6.20** News; Regional News (S)

7.00 Celebrity Mastermind (S)
7.30 Dig 1940 (S)
8.00 Polar Bear: Spy on the Ice Intimate footage of the predator. (S)
9.00 Rock and Chips Prequel to Only Fools and Horses. (S)
10.00 News; Regional News (S)
10.25 The National Lottery (S)
10.35 Match of the Day (S)
11.45 FILM: Hard Rain (1998) Action thriller with Morgan Freeman. (S)

1.15 Weatherview (S) **1.20** Sign Zone: Countryfile (R/S) **2.15** Whistle and I'll Come to You (R/S) **3.10** Upstairs Downstairs (R/S) **4.10** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.00** CBBC **8.30** Great British Railway Journeys (R/S) **9.00** Indian Hill Railways (R/S) **10.00** Wild China (R/S) **11.00** Who Do You Think You Are? (R/S) **12.00** Victorian Farm Christmas (R/S) **1.00 FILM: Cromwell** (1970) Historical drama with Richard Harris and Alec Guinness. (S) **3.15** Coast (S) **3.30** The Indian Doctor (R/S) **4.15** The Weakest Link (S) **5.00 FILM: Strictly Ballroom** (1992) Offbeat comedy with Paul Mercurio and Tara Morice. (S) **6.30** Springwatch Christmas Special (S)

8.00 Les Mis at 25: Matt Lucas Dreams the Dream The comedian fulfils his lifelong dream of performing in the classic musical. (S)
9.00 Arena Rolf Harris paints a scene from A Midsummer Night's Dream. (S)
10.30 QI XL Christmas Special With Daniel Radcliffe and Graham Norton. (S)
11.15 The Goodies (R)
11.45 Andy Parsons: Britain's Got Idiots The comedian performs live. (R/S)

12.50 Medium (R/S) **1.30** Medium (R/S) **2.15** News (S) **4.10** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** The Unforgettable Harry Secombe (R/S) **10.25** Joanna Lumley's Nile (R/S) **11.25 FILM: Agatha Christie's Dead Man's Folly** (1986) (S) **1.25** News (S) **2.05** Oliver Twist (R/S) **4.10 FILM: The Lost World: Jurassic Park** (1997) (S) **6.30** News (S)

7.00 Emmerdale Amy is convinced that Pollard is having an affair. (S)
7.30 The Lakes Patrick Gordon Duff Pennington hosts a lunch at Muncaster Castle. (R/S)
8.00 Agatha Christie's Marple The amateur sleuth stops a court hearing when she discovers new evidence about a murder. (S)
10.00 News (S)
10.35 FILM: Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous (2005) Action comedy sequel with Sandra Bullock and Enrique Murciano. (S)

12.40 FILM: Sweeney (1977) Violent thriller starring John Thaw, Dennis Waterman and Barry Foster. (S) **2.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show (R/S) **3.15** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

5.55 Planet Cook (R/S) **6.15** Wilde Stories (R/S) **6.45** Yo Gabba Gabba (R/S) **7.10** Everybody Loves Raymond (R/S) **7.30** Frasier (R/S) **7.55** According to Jim (R/S) **8.25** T4: Friends (R/S) **8.55** The Hollyoaks Music Show (R/S) **9.25** Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1: T4 Movie Special (R/S) **10.00** Friends (R/S) **10.25** The Simpsons (R/S) **11.00** Glee (R) **11.55 FILM: American Tail** (1986) (S) **1.25** River Cottage Bites (R/S) **1.35 FILM: Zulu** (1964) (S) **4.10** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa (S) **5.00** Come Dine with Me: Coronation Street Special (R/S) **6.00** The Simpsons (R/S) **6.30** Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 News (S)
7.10 FILM: Cheaper By the Dozen 2 (2005) Comedy with Steve Martin. (S)
9.00 The House That Made Me (S)
10.00 Peep Show (S)
10.30 Frankie Boyle's Tramadol Nights (S)
11.05 Jason Manford: Live (R/S)
12.10 FILM: The Family Stone (2005) (S)

2.00 The Real Housewives of New Jersey (S) **3.30** King of the Hill (S) **4.20** ER (R/S) **5.05** Hill Street Blues (R/S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **10.35** Panda Week with Nigel Marven (R/S) **11.05** Ice Road Truckers (R/S) **12.05** News (S) **12.15** Mickey Mouse: Lonesome Ghosts (S) **12.20 FILM: Rooster Cogburn** (1975) Western with John Wayne and Katharine Hepburn. (S) **2.25 FILM: Doctor Zhivago** (1965) Epic drama starring Omar Sharif and Julie Christie. (S) **6.05** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S)

7.00 Cowboy Builders Melinda and Dom meet Angus and Tracy, who are on the brink of collapse. (R/S)
8.00 Cheryl Cole: Where Did It All Go Right... and Wrong? Documentary examining the popularity of the X Factor judge. (R/S)
9.00 Most Shocking Celebrity Moments 2010 A look at the 50 most outrageous events in the world of the rich and famous this year. (S)

12.00 PartyPoker.com World Open VI **1.00** Supercasino **3.55** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S) **4.45** House Doctor (R/S) **5.10** Nick's Quest (R/S) **5.35** Great Scientists (R/S)

THURSDAY DECEMBER 30

(R) Repeat (S) Subtitles

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00** The Sarah Jane Adventures (R) **9.25** The Slammer (R/S) **10.00 FILM: Antz** (1998) (S) **11.20 FILM: Bridge to Terabithia** (2007) (S) **12.50** Just William (S) **1.20** News; Regional News (S) **1.40** Wallace and Gromit: The Wrong Trousers (R/S) **2.10** Doctor Who (R/S) **3.10 FILM: 102 Dalmatians** (2000) (S) **4.45 FILM: Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events** (2004) (S) **6.20** News; Regional News (S)

7.00 Celebrity Mastermind (S)
7.30 EastEnders (S)
8.00 DIY SOS: The Big Build (S)
9.00 Toast Adaptation of chef Nigel Slater's autobiography. (S)
10.30 News; Regional News (S)
10.55 Sport Relief 2010: The Final Score Stars' favourite moments from this year's fundraising campaign. (S)
11.55 FILM: Lara Croft: Tomb Raider (2001) With Angelina Jolie. (S)

1.30 Skiing Weatherview (S) **1.35** Sign Zone: When Harvey Met Bob (R/S) **3.05** Upstairs Downstairs (R/S) **4.05** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.00** CBBC **8.25** Great British Railway Journeys (R/S) **8.55** Bombay Railway (R/S) **9.55** Wild China (R/S) **10.55** Who Do You Think You Are? (R/S) **11.55** Victorian Farm Christmas (R/S) **12.55 FILM: Dances with Wolves** (1990) (S) **3.45** Flog It (R/S) **4.30** Escape to the Country (R/S) **5.30** The Indian Doctor (R/S) **6.15** The Weakest Link (S)

7.00 Coast (R/S)
8.00 Three Men Go to Scotland (S)
9.00 The Rob Brydon Show With Jack Dee, Jo Brand, Alice Cooper and the Hypnotic Brass Ensemble. (S)
9.30 Never Mind the Buzzcocks With Robert Webb, Cee Lo Green, Chris Packham and Andi Osho. (S)
10.00 Shooting Stars Christmas Special 2010 Ronnie Wood, Thandie Newton, Ricky Tomlinson and Joanna Page face the anarchic quizmasters. (S)
10.30 Mock the Week (R/S)
11.00 Rich Hall: Hell No I Ain't Happy The dour comedian live in London. (S)

12.00 The Goodies (R) **12.30** Medium. Double bill. (R/S) **1.55** News (S) **4.05** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** The Unforgettable Bob Monkhouse (R/S) **10.25** Joanna Lumley's Nile (R/S) **11.25 FILM: Agatha Christie's Murder in Three Acts** (1986) (S) **1.25** News (S) **1.45** Smile: this Was Candid Camera (R/S) **2.45** Oliver Twist (R/S) **4.50 FILM: Jurassic Park III** (2001) (S) **6.30** News (S)

7.00 Emmerdale Gennie decides she cannot keep her suspicions about Andy quiet. (S)
7.30 Lion Country (R/S)
8.00 Emmerdale Michael's visit leaves Pollard with a lot of explaining to do. (S)
8.30 Coronation Street Tracy continues to make enemies. (S)
9.00 NEW Ad of the Year A look at some of the best TV advertising in 2010. (S)
10.00 News (S)
10.35 FILM: X2 (2003) Comic superhero sequel starring Patrick Stewart, Hugh Jackman and Ian McKellen. (S)

12.55 FILM: House of Wax (2005) (S) **2.50** Surface (R/S) **3.35** Nightscreen (S) **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

5.55 Wilde Stories (R/S) **6.50** Yo Gabba Gabba (R/S) **7.15** Everybody Loves Raymond (R/S) **7.40** Frasier (R/S) **8.05** According to Jim (R/S) **8.30** T4: Friends (R/S) **9.00** 4Music Video Honours (R/S) **10.00** Friends (R/S) **10.30** Simpsons (R/S) **11.00** Glee (R) **11.55 FILM: Inspector Gadget** (1999) (S) **1.25** River Cottage Bites (R/S) **1.40 FILM: True Grit** (1969) (S) **4.10** Deal or No Deal (S) **5.00** Celebrity Come Dine with Me (R/S) **6.00** The Simpsons (R/S) **6.30** Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 News (S)
7.10 Kirstie and Phil's Embarrassing Bits The property gurus' howlers. (S)
7.55 Location Location Location: A Decade in Property (S)
8.55 Phil and Kirstie's Homes for Heroes (S)
10.30 Bill Bailey: Tinselworm (R/S)
11.35 Frankie Boyle's Tramadol Nights Stand up and sketches. (R/S)

12.40 Album Chart Show (S) **1.10** The Real Housewives of New Jersey (S) **2.40** King of the Hill (S) **3.45 FILM: Tales from Earthsea** (2006) (S) **5.35** Hill Street Blues (R/S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **10.35** Panda Week with Nigel Marven (R/S) **11.05** Ice Road Truckers (R/S) **12.05** Extreme Fishing with Robson Green (R/S) **12.55** News (S) **1.00 FILM: Alice in Wonderland** (1999) Fantasy adventure starring Robbie Coltrane and Whoopi Goldberg. (S) **3.45 FILM: From Here to Eternity** (1953) World War II drama starring Burt Lancaster. (S) **6.05** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S)

7.00 Cowboy Builders (S)
7.55 Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em Xmas 1975 Michael Crawford and Michele Dotrice star in a comedy classic. (S)
9.00 Butterflies: Christmas with the Parkinsons Carla Lane's sitcom. (S)
9.45 Terry and June: Christmas 1982 The couple are in a festive mood. (S)
10.25 FILM: Down and Out in Beverly Hills (1986) Comedy starring Nick Nolte and Richard Dreyfuss. (S)

12.25 Supercasino **3.55** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S) **4.45** House Doctor (R/S) **5.10** Nick's Quest (R/S) **5.35** Great Scientists (R/S)

Leighton Buzzard Drama Group is pleased to present its 2011 WINTER PANTOMIME

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By David Jeanes

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Performances: Thursday 6th, 13th, 20th Jan - 7.15pm
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Saturday 8th, 15th, 22nd Jan - 11.00am - 2.30pm - 6.30pm

Tickets: Family £25.00 (Thursday only 2 Ad + 2 Ch)
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Gardening Tips

Follow these useful tips from the experts at your local family owned Garden Centre

December means hard frosts...

...so if you haven't done already, it's time to harvest winter cabbages and cauliflowers. Sticking with the brassicas, the Brussels sprouts should be starting. You are allowed to eat them on other days as well as Christmas day!

Once again, it's worth checking any vegetables you have in store and removing anything that has started to rot before it spreads. Potatoes especially need to be checked and watch out for slugs that may have exited from one potato to go and damage another one.

Get your bulbs to bloom before Christmas

If you have been working with your bulbs, trying to get them ready for Christmas by forcing them on, now is the time to get them inside for some heat to speed up growth and get those blooms opening.

Poinsettias are best in a nice, light area of the room.

Keep them away from radiators. Even more importantly do not let them catch a cold as they will get stressed, have a sulk and not look good!

Make sure you protect any plants or pots that may be vulnerable to frost damage.

Drain water from any pipes or taps that you have in the garden and insulate them.

Check houseplants and any plants you brought indoors for the winter, for insects that may have hitched a ride. With the heat on, they will yawn, stretch themselves out and then multiply quickly.

As in October and November...

...as ground becomes vacant, you can dig it over and spread manure over the surface. Leave the soil roughly dug in large clumps and the worms will break these up as they get the manure. The freezing and thawing of water in the soil will cause the soil to break up finely so becoming easier to handle in the spring.

Ensure compost bins are covered to prevent excess rain leaching the nutrients and to keep some of the heat of decomposition in.

Stay off frozen grass. All you will do is leave unsightly foot prints where you have broken the brittle grass stalks.

Just because the air is colder now that should not prevent you ventilating your greenhouse and coldframes on the sunnier days of the month.

Look after your NEW Christmas Tree

Now that you have purchased or are about to purchase your wonderful REAL Christmas tree, you'll be wanting to make sure you keep it looking at it's best through until the new year. If your seller didn't already do so, (and here at the Garden Centre, we certainly would have!) cut a centimetre or more off the bottom of the tree. This opens the tree up to take water in better. Stand the tree in a bucket of water until you are ready to take it in the house. Always use a stand that holds water without leaking and give it a pint (500ml) a day. Many of us here at the Garden Centre like a pint (or so) a day too!

December is certainly not a time to eat, drink and be merry...

...you've got gardening work to do! Think about the past year and what worked in your garden and what didn't and plan ahead. Check your supplies of seed trays and accessories as your garden centre has these and all seed varieties in stock now. Get ahead of things. Oh ok, just eat, drink and be merry then!

Garden Column kindly supplied by Leighton Buzzard Garden Centre. See advertisement below for contact details.

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AT THE CINEMA THIS WEEK

BURLESQUE

Christina Aguilera, Cher, Eric Dane, Alan Cumming

From Friday

CHRISTINA Aguilera makes her theatrical film debut as Ali, a small-town girl with dreams of taking to the stage and realising her showbiz dreams.

After moving to Los Angeles Ali stumbles across The Burlesque Lounge, a grand burlesque theatre whose best days are seemingly long gone.

Its owner, Tess (Cher), finds her a job as a cocktail waitress in the club, and she soon finds herself immersed in the art of burlesque, restoring The Burlesque Lounge to its former glory.

TRON LEGACY IN 3D

Jeff Bridges, Michael Sheen, Olivia Wilde, Garrett Hedlund

From Friday

IN this sequel to the cult 1982 sci-fi hit, Kevin Flynn returns as his son Sam decides to find out what happened to his father.

Kevin – once the world's leading video-game developer – disappeared 25 years ago.

When his son Sam investigates a strange signal from the old Flynn's Arcade – a signal that could have only have been sent by his father – he finds himself pulled into the same digital world where Kevin has been trapped for the past two decades.

Christina Aguilera stars in Burlesque

ANIMALS UNITED IN 3D

James Cordon, Dawn French, Jim Broadbent

From Friday

SET in the Okavango Delta, Billy, the little mischievous meerkat, and his pal Socrates, the friendly lion, wait for the annual flood, essential to the Delta and all the animals living there. When the waters fail to come, and wanting to prove to his adoring son Junior that he's not the screwball loser everyone thinks he is, Billy sets out on a quest to find water, accompanied by Socrates.

On their journey, they meet a truly wild and funny bunch of animals from all over the world who have flocked to Africa in search of a new home.

FRED: THE MOVIE

Lucas Cruickshank, Pixie Lott, Jennette McCurdy

From Friday

FRED Figglehorn is a socially awkward 15 year old with a mad crush on his next door neighbour, Judy. But someone wants to scupper his chances. His nemesis, local bully Kevin is trying to thwart his attempts to woo her. When Fred finds out Judy is hosting a party he sneaks in, only to publically ruin her evening. After Kevin posts a video on YouTube showing the incident, Fred cooks up a revenge plan, which involves faking a party of his own to make him look super-popular at school.

WIN CINEMA TICKETS

MK NEWS has teamed up with Cineworld at the Xscape to offer readers the chance to win a pair of tickets to see the film of their choice. Just tell us who makes her screen debut in Burlesque?
Answers by e-mail to: competitions@mk-news.co.uk
Please include your name, address and daytime telephone number.
Closing date Tuesday, December 21.
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NEW YEAR'S EVE 2010

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BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00** Horrible Histories (R/S) **9.30** What's New Scooby-Doo? (R/S) **9.50 FILM: Piglet's Big Movie** (2003) (S) **11.00 FILM: Paulie** (1998) (S) **12.25** Just William (S) **12.55** News; Regional News (S) **1.10** Doctor Who (R/S) **2.10 FILM: Shark Tale** (2004) (S) **3.30 FILM: The Sound of Music** (1965) (S) **6.20** News; Regional News (S)

7.00 Celebrity Mastermind Contestants include Adam Boulton, Toby Buckland, Kirsten O'Brien and Rhys Thomas. (S)
7.30 A Question of Sport (R/S)
8.00 EastEnders Kat fights for her life. (S)
8.40 Jonathan Creek A woman is possessed by the spirit of a Victorian sorceress. (R/S)
10.15 News (S)
10.40 The Graham Norton New Year's Eve Show (S)
11.45 The National Lottery Friday Night Draws (S)
11.50 New Year Live 2010 Jake Humphrey ushers in the New Year. (S)
12.20 FILM: Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life (2003) With Angelina Jolie. (S) **2.05** Weather (S) **2.10** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.00** CBBC **8.35** Great British Railway Journeys (R/S) **9.05** Bombay Railway (R/S) **10.05** Wild China (R/S) **11.05** Who Do You Think You Are? (R/S) **12.05** Legends: The Beverley Sisters, Tickled Pink (R/S) **1.05 FILM: Nicholas Nickleby** (2002) (S) **3.15** Flog It (R/S) **4.00** Escape to the Country (R/S) **4.45** The Indian Doctor (R/S) **5.30** James May: My Sister's Top Toys (R/S) **6.30 FILM: Just Like Heaven** (2005) (S)

8.00 Edwardian Farm The team put on a party to celebrate a visit from paddle steamer Monarch. (S)
9.00 100 Years of the Palladium Behind-the-scenes shenanigans from the world's most famous theatre. (S)
10.00 Grumpy Old New Year Celebrities including Jenny Eclair and Alan Titchmarsh have a whinge. (R/S)
11.00 Jools' Annual Hootenanny Performers joining Jools to ring in the New Year include Kylie Minogue, Cee Lo Green and Rumer. (S)
1.15 TOTP 2: 80s Special (R/S) **2.15** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** This Morning: the Very Best of 2010 (S) **10.40** Joanna Lumley's Nile (R/S) **11.40** David Suchet on the Orient Express (R/S) **12.40** News (S) **12.55** Oliver Twist (R/S) **3.00 FILM: The Living Daylights** (1987) **5.30** News (S) **6.00** It's Paul Burling (R/S)

7.00 Emmerdale Scarlett is unimpressed to see Adam hanging out with Mia. (S)
7.30 Coronation Street Tracy draws a second victim into her web. (S)
8.00 You've Been Framed (R/S)
8.40 Coronation Street Absent friends are toasted, while others seek revenge. (S)
9.10 FILM: Elizabeth: the Golden Age (2007) Historical drama sequel starring Cate Blanchett, Clive Owen and Geoffrey Rush. (S)
11.20 That Was 2010 With Mark Austin. (S)
11.50 News (S)
12.05 FILM: Mars Attacks! (1996) Sci-fi satire starring Jack Nicholson. (S)
1.50 FILM: Outland (1981) Sci-fi thriller based on western High Noon, starring Sean Connery. (S) **3.40** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.30 Planet Cook (R/S) **6.50** Yo Gabba Gabba (R/S) **7.15** Everybody Loves Raymond (R/S) **7.35** Frasier (R/S) **8.00** According to Jim (R/S) **8.30** T4: Friends (R/S) **9.00** JLS Only Tonight: Live in London (R/S) **9.55** Friends (R/S) **10.25** 127 Hours: T4 Movie Special (S) **10.55** Glee (R/S) **11.50** The Simpsons (R/S) **12.20** Wedding House (S) **1.15 FILM: Dr Dolittle** (1967) (S) **4.00** Deal or No Deal: Scrooge or Santa (S) **5.00** Celebrity Come Dine with Me (R/S) **6.00** The Simpsons (R/S) **6.30** Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 News (S)
7.15 Relocation: Phil Down Under (R/S)
8.10 Come Dine with Me Four cooks battle it out in Wakefield. (S)
9.10 Channel 4 Comedy Gala Comedy marathon from the O2 Arena. (R/S)
11.40 Father Ted Dougal and Ted enter the Eurovision Song Contest. (R/S)
12.10 Father Ted (R/S) **12.45** Father Ted (R/S) **1.15** Father Ted (R/S) **1.40** The Real Housewives of New Jersey. Double bill. (S) **3.35** Brothers and Sisters (R/S) **4.25** ER (R/S) **5.10** Hill Street Blues (R/S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **10.35** Panda Week with Nigel Marven (R/S) **11.05** Ice Road Truckers (R/S) **12.05** Extreme Fishing with Robson Green (R/S) **12.55** News (S) **1.00** Terry and June: Christmas 1982 (R/S) **1.40** Butterflies: Christmas with the Parkinsons (R/S) **2.25** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em Xmas 1975 (R/S) **3.30 FILM: Arabian Nights** (2000) Fantasy starring Alan Bates and Jason Scott Lee. (S)

7.00 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers A lorry driver takes on the company train in a race. (R/S)
8.00 Cowboy Builders Melinda and Dom meet a couple who have put their dream of adoption on ice. (R/S)
9.00 FILM: Shadow Man (2006) Action with Steven Seagal. (S)
10.50 World's Most Extreme Airports Documentary highlighting the treacherous conditions that airlines face at dangerous airports. (R/S)
12.15 Supercasino **3.55** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S) **4.45** House Doctor (R/S) **5.10** Nick's Quest (R/S) **5.35** Great Scientists. Albert Einstein. (R/S)

NEW YEAR'S DAY 2011

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **10.00** Saturday Kitchen (S) **11.30** Football Focus (S) **12.20** News; Regional News (S) **12.35** The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message (S) **12.40** Doctor Who (R) **1.40 FILM: Bee Movie** (2007) (S) **3.00 FILM: Wall-E** (2008) (S) **4.30** Final Score (S) **5.15** News; Regional News (S) **5.35 FILM: Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull** (2008) (S)

7.30 NEW The Magicians Magicians team up with celebrities to perform tricks. (S)
8.30 EastEnders (S)
9.00 Come Fly with Me Melody and Taaj get tough with FlyLo's new baggage allowance regulations. (S)
9.30 Live at the Apollo Lenny Henry introduces sets from Mike Wilmot and Tommy Tiernan. (S)
10.00 The National Lottery Saturday Night Draws (S)
10.10 News (S)
10.30 Match of the Day Matches include West Brom v Manchester United. (S)
11.50 The Football League Show. (S)
1.10 Weatherview (S) **1.15** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.00** CBBC **11.15** New Year's Day Concert 2011 (S) **12.50 FILM: The War Bride** (2001) (S) **2.30 FILM: The Horse Whisperer** (1998) (S) **5.10** The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message (R/S) **5.15** The Indian Doctor (R/S) **6.00** Darts: World Championships (S)

7.25 Dad's Army Captain Mainwaring sets up an observation post in the lighthouse. (R)
7.55 The Morecambe and Wise Christmas Show 1976 With Elton John and Angela Rippon. (R)
9.00 Eric and Ernie The story of the comics' formative years. (S)
10.30 Eric and Ernie: Behind the Scenes Charting the duo's rise through archive footage and celebrity interviews. (S)
11.30 FILM: Rising Damp (1979) Movie spin-off with Leonard Rossiter and Frances de la Tour. (S)
1.05 Darts: World Championships Highlights. Action from Lakeside. (S) **1.55** Darts: World Championships Extra (S) **3.55** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 Boblins (S) **6.15** Fireman Sam (S) **6.25** Chloe's Closet (S) **6.35** The Hive (S) **6.45** Babar and the Adventures of Badou (S) **7.10** The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That (S) **7.25** Horrid Henry (S) **7.40 FILM: The Neverending Story** (1984) (S) **9.25** Planet's Funniest Animals (R/S) **9.50** Coronation Street Omnibus (S) **12.10** News (S) **12.20** Midsomer Murders (R/S) **2.20** Downton Abbey. Double bill. (R/S) **4.50** News (S) **5.05 FILM: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban** (2004) (R/S)

7.30 NEW Primeval Abby and Connor find a lost anomaly device. (S)
8.30 Take Me Out Dating series hosted by Paddy McGuinness. (S)
9.45 FILM: Forgetting Sarah Marshall (2008) Romantic comedy with Jason Segel, Kristen Bell and Russell Brand. (S)
10.45 News (S)
11.00 FILM: Forgetting Sarah Marshall Conclusion of tonight's film. (S)
12.10 FILM: American Pie: the Wedding (2003) (S) **1.55 FILM: Blues Brothers 2000** (1998) (S) **4.00** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.05 Sali Mali (R/S) **6.10** The Hoobs (R/S) **6.35** The Hoobs (R/S) **7.00** GT Academy (R/S) **7.25** Freesports on 4 (S) **7.55** The Morning Line (S) **8.50** T4: Friends (R/S) **9.50** T4 Stars of 2010 (R/S) **12.20** Glee (R/S) **1.25** Channel 4 Racing (S) **3.25** Come Dine with Me. Back-to-back episodes. (R/S) **6.00** News (S) **6.20 FILM: Independence Day** (1996) With Jeff Goldblum. (S)

9.00 Father Ted Night: Unintelligent Design Father Ted creators Graham Linehan and Arthur Mathews discuss their inspirations. (S)
9.35 Viewers' Favourite Episode The all-time favourite episode, as voted for by viewers. (R/S)
10.05 Small, Far Away: The World of Father Ted A look at the creation of the landmark comedy series. (S)
11.15 The Writers' Favourite Episode (R/S)
11.50 FILM: The Heartbreak Kid (1972) (S) **1.50** Comedy Lab (R/S) **2.15** Dirty Sexy Money (R/S) **3.00** Dirty Sexy Money (R/S) **3.45** Brothers and Sisters (R/S) **4.30** Beauty and the Geek. Two episodes. (R/S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **10.00** Zoo Days (R/S) **10.20 FILM: High Society** (1956) (S) **12.25 FILM: Titanic** (1996) Epic drama starring Peter Gallagher and George C Scott. (S) **3.55 FILM: The Searchers** (1956) (S) **6.15** News (S) **6.20** CSI: Miami (R/S)

7.10 CSI: Miami A murder suspect tries to throw the CSIs off his trail. (R/S)
8.00 CSI: Miami Ryan is forced to interfere with a murder investigation by Russian gangsters. (R/S)
9.00 CSI: NY A CSI is fatally injured when mogul Robert Dunbrook's son is kidnapped. (R/S)
10.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation Grissom is pulled off a case in which a serial killer meticulously cleans up the crime scene. (R/S)
11.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation A triple murder from 15 years ago comes back to haunt Catherine. (R/S)
12.00 Supercasino **4.00** Brian Sewell's Grand Tour (R/S) **4.45** Animal Rescue Squad (R/S) **4.55** The Family Recipe (R/S) **5.00** Milkshake

SUNDAY JANUARY 2 2011

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **8.30** Match of the Day (R/S) **9.55 FILM: Sinbad: Legend of the Seven Seas** (2003) (S) **11.10** News (S) **11.20** Sport Relief 2010: The Final Score (R/S) **12.20** Doctor Who (R/S) **1.35** EastEnders (R/S) **4.10** Halcyon River Diaries (R/S) **5.10** Songs of Praise (S) **5.45** News; Regional News (S) **6.10** Countryfile (S)

7.10 Antiques Roadshow Finds include a chair once used by Einstein. (S)
8.10 Casualty When Jordan finds himself late for an important meeting, he decides to drive despite his ban – with fatal consequences. (S)
9.00 NEW Zen Italian detective Aurelio Zen is sent to a remote village to re-investigate a murder. (S)
10.30 News; Regional News (S)
10.55 Gavin and Stacey Gavin starts his new job in Cardiff. (R/S)
11.25 FILM: Norbit (2007) Romantic comedy with Eddie Murphy. (S)
1.00 The Sky at Night (S) **1.25** Sign Zone: Holby City (R/S) **2.25** Polar Bear: Spy on the Ice (R/S) **3.25** Coast (R/S) **4.25** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies **7.05** CBBC **10.00** Something for the Weekend (S) **11.30** Escape to the Country (R/S) **12.30** Bargain Hunt Famous Finds (R/S) **1.00** Darts: World Championships (S) **4.45** Flog It (R/S) **5.30** Darts: World Championships (S) **6.50** The Morecambe and Wise Christmas Show 1977 (R)

8.00 Oz and Hugh Raise the Bar The duo tour a pork scratching factory. (S)
9.00 Arctic with Bruce Parry The explorer enjoys the summer solstice festivals in Siberia. (S)
10.00 Match of the Day 2 Featured matches include Chelsea vs Aston Villa and Wigan vs Newcastle. (S)
11.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks With Cee Lo Green, Chris Packham, Example and Andi Osho. (R/S)
11.30 The Man Who Made Eric and Ernie Profiling entertainment impresario Sir Bill Cotton, who died in 2008. (R/S)
12.30 Darts: World Championships Highlights. Further action from Lakeside. (S) **1.20** Darts: World Championships Extra (S) **3.20** News (S) **4.25** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 Boblins (S) **6.15** Fireman Sam (S) **6.25** Chloe's Closet (S) **6.35** Fluffy Gardens (S) **6.45** Handy Manny (S) **7.10** Bookaboo (S) **7.25** Monk (S) **7.30** My Goldfish is Evil (S) **7.55** X-Men (S) **8.20** Horrid Henry (S) **8.35** The Suite Life (S) **9.25 FILM: Curious George** (2006) (S) **11.00 FILM: Beethoven's 5th** (2003) (S) **12.45** You've Been Framed (R/S) **1.15** News (S) **1.30** Downton Abbey. Triple bill. (R/S) **4.30** News (S) **5.00 FILM: The Incredible Hulk** (2008) (S)

7.00 Primeval Connor looks up his old friend Duncan, who is obsessed with creature sightings. (S)
8.00 The Cube: Celebrity Special With Jennie McAlpine and Ricky Hatton. (S)
9.00 Agatha Christie's Marple The sleuth investigates when the fan of an actress dies from poisoning. (S)
11.00 News (S)
11.15 The Comedy Annual 2010 A look back at the year in comedy. (R/S)
12.15 Rugby Highlights (S) **1.15 FILM: The Shadow** (1994) Action with Alec Baldwin. (S) **3.00** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Sali Mali (R/S) **6.05** The Treacle People (R/S) **6.15** The Hoobs (R/S) **6.40** The Hoobs (R/S) **7.05** Super 8 Athletics (R/S) **8.00** T4: Friends (R/S) **8.30** Friends (R/S) **9.05** The Album Chart Show Introduces Jessie J (S) **9.25** Hollyoaks Omnibus (R/S) **12.05** Glee (R/S) **1.05** The Simpsons (R/S) **1.35** The Simpsons (R/S) **2.05 FILM: Son of the Mask** (2005) (S) **3.55** The Simpsons (R/S) **4.25** Deal or No Deal (S) **5.30** News (S) **5.40 FILM: Iron Man** (2008) With Robert Downey Jr. (S)

8.00 NEW Famous and Fearless Eight brave celebrities take on adrenaline-fuelled urban action sports in front of a massive live audience. (S)
10.00 Alan Carr: Chatty Man With Matt Lucas and music from McFly. (S)
11.05 Lee Evans XL Tour The funnyman works up a sweat live on stage at the Cardiff International Arena. (R/S)
12.10 Originals Presents Kelis (R/S) **12.25** Little Noise Sessions (R/S) **1.00** American Football Live (S) **4.45** Strathclyde Park Triathlon (R/S) **5.15** Brothers and Sisters (R/S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **11.10** Zoo Days (R/S) **11.40 FILM: Around the World in 80 Days** (1956) Adventure with David Niven. (S) **2.55 FILM: Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London** (2004) Family adventure starring Frankie Muniz and Anthony Anderson. (S) **4.50** News (S) **5.00** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers (R/S) **6.00 FILM: The Towering Inferno** (1974) Disaster movie starring Steve McQueen and Paul Newman. A fire breaks out in a state-of-the-art San Francisco high-rise during the opening ceremony, which is attended by a host of A-list guests. (S)

9.00 Most Shocking Celebrity Moments 2010 A light-hearted look at the 50 most outrageous occurrences in the world of the rich and famous this year. Among the bombshells examined are Cheryl and Ashley Cole's divorce, George Michael's spell in prison, and Robbie's return to Take That. (R/S)
12.00 Russell and Katy Get Married (R/S) **1.00** Supercasino **4.00** Brian Sewell's Grand Tour (R/S) **4.45** Animal Rescue Squad (R/S) **4.55** The Family Recipe (R/S) **5.00** Milkshake

HOLIDAY MONDAY 3 2011

(R) Repeat (S) Subtitles

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00** Wanted Down Under (S) **9.45** Homes Under the Hammer (S) **10.45** Saints and Scroungers (S) **11.30** To Buy or Not To Buy (S) **12.00** Bargain Hunt (S) **12.45** News (S) **1.00** Regional News and Weather (S) **1.15** Cash in the Celebrity Attic (S) **2.00** Keeping Up Appearances (R/S) **2.30 FILM: Three Men and a Little Lady** (1990) (S) **4.10** Doctor Who (R) **5.15** The Weakest Link (S) **6.00** News; Regional News (S) **6.30** Wallace and Gromit: A Matter of Loaf and Death (R/S)

7.00 Jimmy's Christmas Food Factory (S)
7.30 Nigel Slater's New Year Suppers (S)
8.00 EastEnders (S)
8.30 Celebrity Mastermind (S)
9.00 NEW Silent Witness Nikki is disturbed by a rape and murder case. (S)
10.00 News; Regional News (S)
10.25 A Question of Sport (S)
10.55 The Football League Show (S)
12.15 Weatherview (S) **12.20** Sign Zone: Giles and Sue Live the Good Life (R/S)
1.20 Rock and Chips (R/S) **2.20** Dig 1940 (R/S) **2.50** The Story of Science (R/S) **3.50** News (S)

BBC2

6.00 CBBC **11.30** Animal Park (R/S) **12.30** Open Gardens (R/S) **1.00** Darts: World Championships (S) **4.30** Final Score (S) **5.15** Antiques Road Trip (S) **6.00** Eggheads (S) **6.30** Great British Railway Journeys (S)

7.00 Darts: World Championships Live action from the second round matches at the Lakeside. (S)
8.00 Stargazing Live Join Professor Brian Cox and Dara O Briain to wonder at the night sky, with images beamed in from telescopes across the globe. (S)
9.00 NEW The Bear Family and Me Gordon Buchanan spends a year with a family of wild black bears. (S)
10.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks With Frankie Boyle, Michelle Williams, Professor Green and Miles Jupp. (S)
10.30 FILM: Smart People (2009) Comic drama with Lawrence Wetherhold and Dennis Quaid. (S)
12.00 Darts: World Championships Highlights. The latest action from Lakeside. (S) **12.50** Darts: World Championships Extra (S) **2.50** News (S) **3.50** Ceefax

ITV1

6.00 Daybreak (S) **8.30** Lorraine (S) **9.25** Britain Does the Funniest Things (R/S) **10.30** This Morning (S) **12.30** The Unforgettable Hattie Jacques (R/S) **1.00** News (S) **1.30** Downton Abbey. Double bill. (R/S) **4.00** Doc Martin (R/S) **5.00** The Chase (S) **6.00** News (S)

7.00 Emmerdale Pollard makes a shocking confession to Val. (S)
7.30 Coronation Street Speculation is rife as the police close in on a suspect. (S)
8.00 NEW The Lakes Featuring Rob Rose, who has spent the past 15 years breeding the perfect pet pig. (S)
8.30 Coronation Street Deirdre is adamant that Steve is the culprit. (S)
9.00 NEW Above Suspicion The killing of an ex-policeman leaves a drug dealer as the prime suspect. (S)
10.00 News (S)
10.15 FILM: The Matrix Reloaded (2003) Science-fiction sequel starring Keanu Reeves, Laurence Fishburne and Hugo Weaving. (S)
12.35 The Zone **2.40** Spartacus (S) **4.10** Nightscreen **5.30** News (S)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Sali Mali (R/S) **6.05** The Treacle People (R/S) **6.20** The Hoobs (R/S) **6.45** The Hoobs (R/S) **7.10** Freshly Squeezed (S) **7.40** Everybody Loves Raymond (R/S) **8.05** Frasier (R/S) **8.30** Friends (R/S) **9.25** Famous and Fearless (R/S) **11.30** Glee (R/S) **12.30** 127 Hours: T4 Movie Special (R/S) **1.00 FILM: Three Men and a Baby** (1987) (S) **3.00** Celebrity Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. Two episodes. (R/S) **3.55** Deal or No Deal (S) **5.00** Celebrity Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. Double bill. (R/S) (R/S) **6.00** The Simpsons (R/S) **6.30** Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 News (S)
7.05 Relocation: Phil Down Under (R/S)
8.00 Famous and Fearless (S)
9.30 Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2010 Guests include Jonathan Ross, Ruth Jones and Alan Carr. (S)
11.40 Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special The Wanted perform. (R/S)
12.45 Poker (S) **1.45** The Genius of British Art (R/S) **2.40** Headhunters of World War II (R/S) **3.35 FILM: The North Star** (1943) (S) **5.15** The Untold Invasion of Britain (R/S)

FIVE

6.00 Milkshake **9.50** Ice Road Truckers (R/S) **10.50** CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (R/S) **11.45 FILM: Our Man in Havana** (1960) Wry spy comedy starring Alec Guinness and Noel Coward. (S) **1.50** News (S) **2.00 FILM: Ryan's Daughter** (1970) Epic drama starring Sarah Miles and Robert Mitchum. (S) **5.30** Cowboy Builders (R/S) **6.25 FILM: Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment** (1985) Comedy sequel starring Steve Guttenberg and Bubba Smith. (S)

8.05 FILM: Austin Powers: The Spy Who S***d Me** (1999) Comedy sequel starring Mike Myers and Heather Graham. The hero teams up with CIA agent Felicity Shagwell. (S)
10.00 FILM: Until Death (2007) Action thriller with Jean-Claude Van Damme and Selina Giles. A detective wakes from a coma to learn his wife has been kidnapped by a crime boss. (S)
12.10 America's Toughest Prisons (R/S) **1.10** Supercasino **4.00** Brian Sewell's Grand Tour (R/S) **4.45** Housebusters (R/S) **5.10** Wildlife SOS (R/S) **5.35** House Doctor (R/S)

Church Services

CHRISTMAS SERVICES FOR 2010

Sunday 19th December
11.15am All Age Christmas Service
5.00pm Carols by Candlelight. 7.00pm Carols by Candlelight
(5.00pm service suitable for children)
Drinks and mince pies will be served after both carol services.
Please join us.

Friday 24th December – Christmas Eve
11.15pm Christmas Eve Midnight Service

Saturday 25th December - Christmas Day
10.30am All Age Celebration

Sunday 26th December
No Services

Sunday 2nd January 2011
9.15am Worship
11.15am Worship (youth and children's work provided)

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Holy Trinity Deanshanger

Sunday 19th December
3.00pm Carols & Christingle service

Friday 24th December 11.30pm
Midnight Christmas Eve
Holy Communion

Christmas Day
9.00am St Guthlac's Passenham
Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Trinity Family Communion
Rev Chris Murray
01908 262371
All welcome

Wannabe MPs celebrate

Debate winners Ciall Kennett and Brent Johnston with Iain Stewart

TWO wannabe MPs are celebrating after defeating all-comers to be crowned debating champions at Westminster.

Ciall Kennett and Brent Johnston, both 17, from Shenley Brook End School, fought through three tough rounds of the annual competition, open to students in years ten to 13 from all 13 secondary schools in the borough, which included a final at Parliament against runners-up Stantonbury Campus.

The pair had to debate subjects ranging from the House of Lords, to Milton Keynes' city status and the Euro Currency.

After winning the trophy, Ciall said: "It's the best achievement of my life. I didn't think I'd do that good, and I didn't think we would win, that was a shock."

Ciall said the competition, with judges including MK NEWS reporter Adam Grinsell, has now given him the confidence to speak his mind on issues that matter to him.

He added: "If I hadn't started debating, I wouldn't have spoken in public and it's given me a voice because I've got quite strong opinions." His colleague Brent hopes to study politics at university, and said the competition will help him in his ultimate goal to become a politician.

The contest has run for the last three years, set up by MPs Iain Stewart and Mark Lancaster to help get students interested in politics and improve their confidence.

Mr Stewart said: "Again this year, a very high standard of debates throughout. I congratulate all the participants, it's just a shame that not everyone can be the winner."

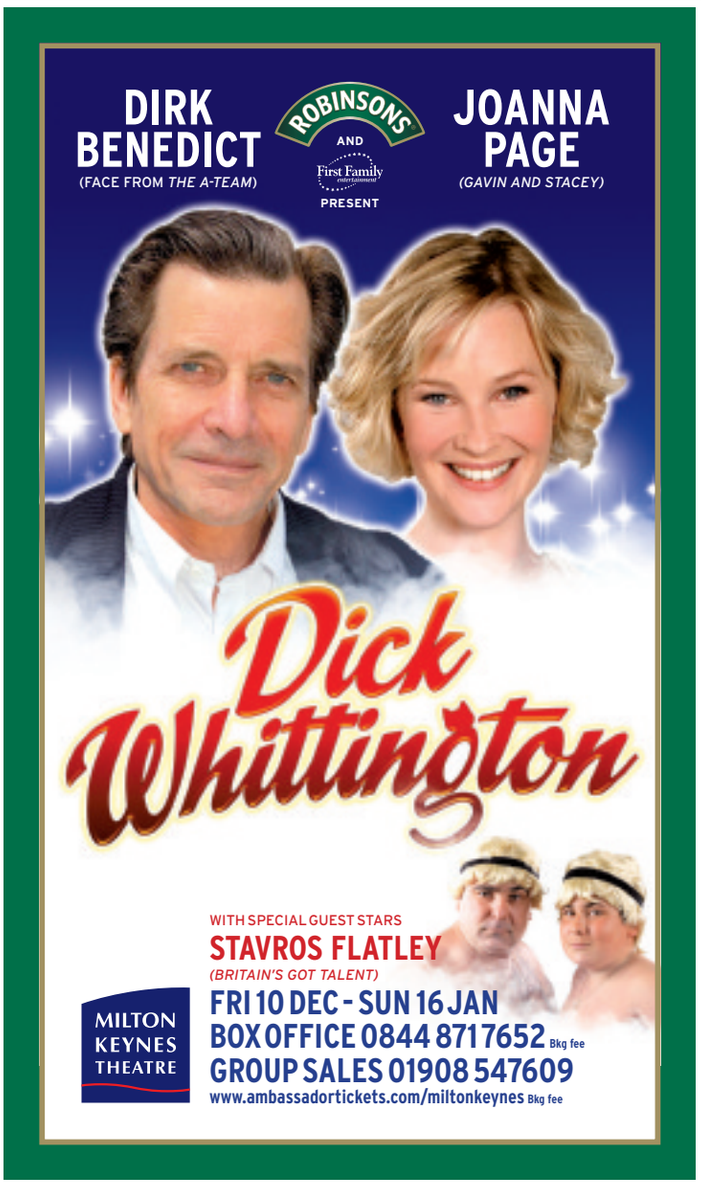
Shenley man to face 10 charges

A SHENLEY man has been charged with ten offences in connection with burglary, theft of a vehicle and drugs.

Amir Alvi, 22, of Stafford Grove, Shenley Church End, was charged with four counts of burglary, taking a motor vehicle without consent, possession with intent to supply cannabis, making off without payment, using a vehicle without insurance, driving whilst disqualified and for resisting arrest.

The burglary charges relate to four properties which were broken into during November 23 and 24 in Tattenhoe, Woolstone and Willen Park.

Mr Alvi has been remanded in custody and is due to appear at Huntingdon Crown Court on January 7.



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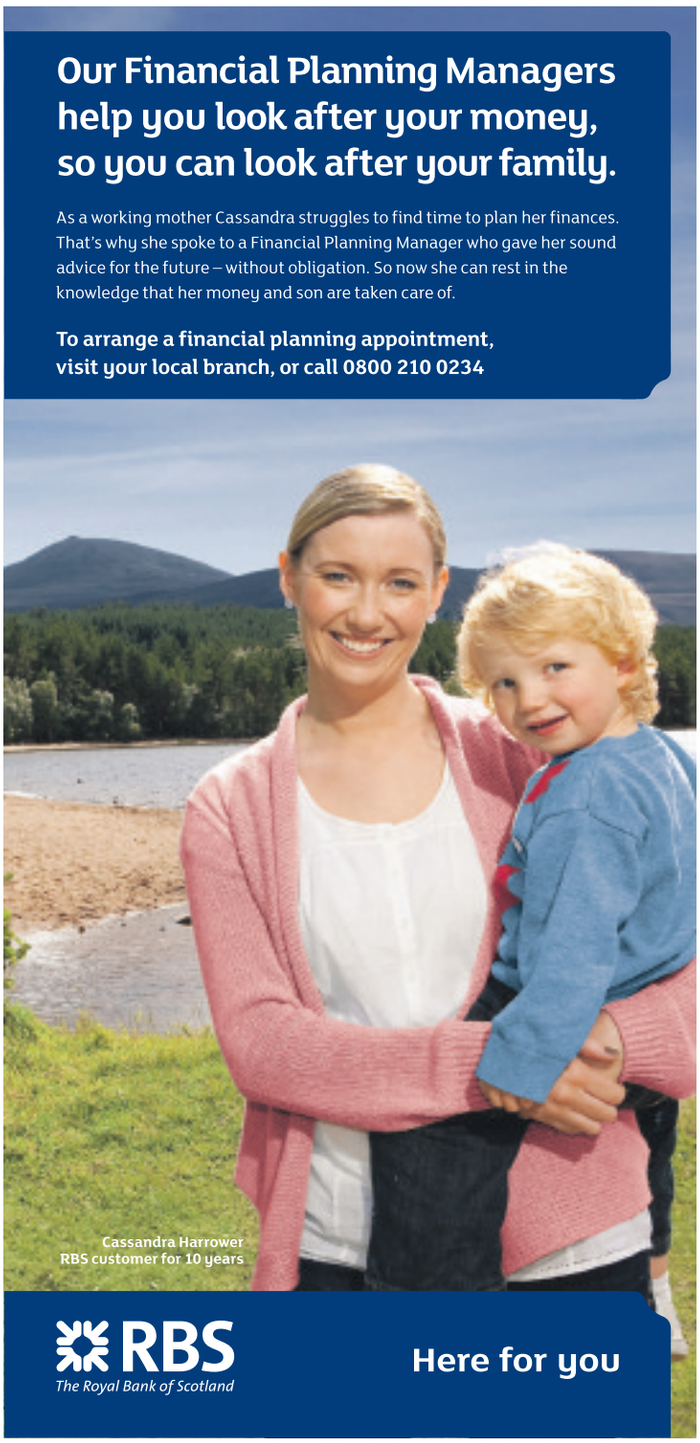

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Orchard School pupils with Santa and Studio 6 students

Treat for schoolkids

CHRISTMAS came early for 60 lucky pupils at a Springfield school.

The year four Orchard School youngsters were treated to a Winter Wonderland spectacle organised by Studio 6 students at The Milton Keynes Academy on Wednesday.

The eight and nine-year-olds enjoyed a live musical show, were blasted by snow, received gifts from Father Christmas, created their own decorations and tucked into a festive lunch.

Darren Thomson, teacher at the Academy, said: "My Year 12 Creative and Media Diploma students decided that they wanted to do something really special for young children so worked very hard for eight weeks on the project. They did a superb job and created a day that will be remembered by a lot of little children for a very long time."

Illegal immigrants at work in shop centre

FOUR illegal immigrants have been arrested following a raid at thecentre:mk.

The UK Border Agency says that acting on intelligence, with the full co-operation of management, officers visited thecentre:mk on Sunday to carry out checks on staff working on stalls there.

At the stall Premier Dead Sea a 29-year-old Israeli man was arrested for being in the UK illegally after his visa had expired.

At the Natural Wood stall a 23-year-old Pakistani man was arrested for working in breach of his visa conditions.

At third stall, Herstyler, a 22-year-old Israeli man was arrested for working in breach of his visa conditions, and a 22-year-old Israeli woman was arrested for being in the UK after her visa had expired. All four were detained and now await removal from the UK.

The employers of the four illegal immigrants could now face fines of up to £10,000 per person unless they can prove to the UK Border Agency that the correct right-to-work checks were carried out.

Deputy director Maria Leon, in charge of UK Border Agency operations in the Thames Valley, said: "Where we find people who are in the UK illegally we will seek to remove them.

"Illegal working has a serious impact on communities, taking jobs from those who are genuinely allowed to work.

"It is the legal responsibility of all employers to check that employees have the right to work in the UK. Businesses which operate outside the law should be warned that they will be found and they will be punished."

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JOIN OUR SCENIC WINTERLAND TRAIN EXCURSION!
FRIDAY 25TH FEBRUARY – from your local station to Carlisle
Travel over the picturesque Settle & Carlisle Line with its many viaducts and dramatic winter scenery. On the return, we meander back along the Cumbrian Coast Line.

PICK UP STATIONS are WATFORD JUNCTION (depart 06.00, return 22.00), HEMEL HEMPSTEAD (depart 06.10, return 21.50), BERKAMSTED (depart 06.20, return 21.40), TRING (depart 06.30, return 21.30), LEIGHTON BUZZARD (depart 06.45, return 21.15), MILTON KEYNES CENTRAL (depart 07.00, return 21.00), NORTHAMPTON (depart 07.25, return 20.35), RUGBY (depart 07.40, return 20.30) and NUNEATON (depart 07.55, return 20.05). ALL TIMINGS are currently estimated.

This day excursion is by direct train with spacious and comfortable 'Inter-City' carriages with pre-booked seats for all passengers. Standard, First and Premier Dining fares are offered.

Why not indulge yourself with Premier Dining and enjoy our luxurious Great British Breakfast and a 4-course Evening Dinner. All food is silver serviced by our stewards. SPECIAL OFFER: Book by January 15th and we treat you to a complementary ¼ bottle of wine per person.

OUR SCENIC JOURNEY: We travel over the famous Settle & Carlisle line across the finest scenery of North Yorkshire and the Cumbrian Fells. After a break, we return south via the beautiful Cumbrian Coast set against the backdrop of the Lake District taking us to Maryport and the Solway Coast, then via the rocky coastal route to Whitehaven and St Bees, before heading down-coast to Ravenglass and the Barrow area. More spectacular views are to follow travelling through Grange-over-Sands and Morecambe Bay, the Lakeland Mountains and Arnside with its viaduct. Our final leg is via the steeply graded and scenic Standedge route back to your joining points.

CARLISLE: A break of up to 2 hours is expected at Carlisle. You may choose to stroll between the castle, cathedral or the Tullie House Museum. All surrounded by great places to shop, eat or drink and mostly within walking distance of its rail station.

TICKETS Premier Dining £159, First Class £89 and Standard Class £58. Tables for 2 are available at £15 per person in First and Premier Dining, subject to availability. Discounts are offered to juniors or groups of 4 adults, please call our booking office. A buffet service is available to purchase hot and cold snacks and drinks and soft and alcoholic drinks. Terms and conditions apply, please ask for details.

TO BOOK and INFO: www.rail-bluecharters.co.uk/tour_list or 0161 850 0559 or bookings@rail-bluecharters.co.uk

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WALTONGRANGE

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Christmas Opening Times

- 24th December Closed
- 25th December Closed
- 26th December Closed
- 27th December By appointment
- 28th December 10am – 5pm
- 29th December 10am – 5pm
- 30th December 10am – 5pm
- 31st December By appointment
- 1st January Closed
- 2nd January 10am – 5pm
- 3rd January 10am – 5pm
- 4th January By appointment
- 5th January By appointment
- 6th January By appointment
- 7th January Normal opening

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- Unfurnished

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Wanlut Tree
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- Allocated parking
- Cul de sac location
- Unfurnished
- Available now

£525 pcm

Fishermead
- One Bedroom
- Unfurnished
- White Goods
- Upvc Double Glazing
- Available now

£525 pcm

Furzton
- One Bedroom
- Unfurnished
- White Goods
- Galleried Bedroom
- Parking
- Available now

£525 pcm

PROPERTY LISTINGS

Conniburrow	1 Bed	£450pcm
Greenleys	1 Bed	£475pcm
Walnut Tree	1 Bed	£525pcm
Monkston	1 Bed	£595pcm
Central Milton Keynes	1 Bed	£550pcm
Central Milton Keynes	1 Bed	£575pcm
Fishermead	2 Bed	£595pcm
Bletchley	2 Bed	£650pcm
Emerson Valley	2 Bed	£650pcm
Kents Hill	2 Bed	£695pcm
Middleton	2 Bed	£695pcm
Heelands	3 Bed	£750pcm
Oldbrook	3 Bed	£850pcm
Great Linford	3 Bed	£850pcm
Oldbrook	4 Bed	£995pcm
Emerson Valley	5 Bed	£1250pcm
Grange Farm	5 Bed	£1495pcm

Kents Hill
- One bed flat
- Parking Space
- White goods
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£495 pcm

Peartree Bridge
- One bed cluster home
- Ample communal parking
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We are currently recieving a large volume of enquiries for good quality 2 or 3 bedroom houses.

If you own a property which you are considering letting, call us on 01908 230500, and we will be happy to arrange a free market appraisal with no obligations.

We may already have a suitable tenant waiting.

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- Two bed apartment
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Walnut Tree
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Downsbarn
- One Bedroom Flat
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£575 pcm

Neath Hill
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- Parking
- Garage

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- Two bed flat
- White goods
- Close to train station
- Unfurnished
- Available 1st oct

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ESTATE AGENCY of the YEAR

T: 01908 933766
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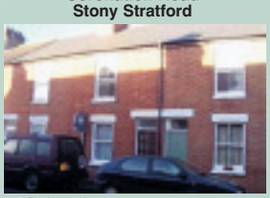

- 3 Bedroom house
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Rear Garden.

£710 pcm

Maidford Road
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- Three Bedroom Cottage
- Gardens & Parking
- Wood Burner

£770 pcm

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- 4 Bedroom House
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- Gardens Front & Rear

£760 pcm

Bampton Close
FURZTON

- 3 Bedroom House
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Homerton Street
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- BRAND NEW
- 2 Double Bedroom Apt
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TRAINEE JUNIOR LETTINGS NEGOTIATOR

We currently have a position within our busy lettings department, this would ideally suit a young person.

The person required must have good communication and organisational skills. Also a good knowledge of the local area. The person will need to be able to work well within a busy team and there is the opportunity of being able to progress within the company.

Car owner essential.

Please apply in writing or by email only to Jane Cain
Jayne Beard Associates Limited,
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Email jane.cain@jaynebeard.co.uk

GLENN

FULL AND PART TIME TELESALES CONSULTANTS REQUIRED

We are looking for additional Telesales candidates to work alongside our existing team. You will support and work closely with the existing sales team to generate new business appointments/leads and establish a good database of potential opportunities.
Applicants should be Computer literate, and have the following skills/attributes. Telesales experience, Confident telephone manner and a flair for building relationships over the telephone, is Target driven and work to the teams Target.

In return you will receive;
- Good Basic Salary
- Rewarding Commission Structure

Please apply in writing with CV to David Draycott Glenn Management dd@glenn-group.co.uk

SentrySafe

Sales Support Executive - Basic Salary
£27k + 10% Bonus + 4% Pension

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An established U.S. brand experiencing rapid growth in the UK requires a talented Sales Support Executive.

Duties include:
- Support sales teams developing and updating sales documents
- Analysis of customer EPOS databases and recommendations for expanding sales
- Work with cross-functional departments to communicate customer requirements and follow up
- Assist with the development and presentation of account plans and business proposals both internally and externally
- Occasional travel to the US and accompanying Sales team on visiting customers within the UK

Requirements for the post:
- Minimum of 5-10 years experience
- Customer Service focused
- Excellent Excel and PowerPoint skills
- Strong interpersonal and presentation skills
- Comfortable with customer contact
- Attention to detail essential
- Ability to multi-task in a deadline driven environment
- Business qualification desirable

Closing date is 24th December 2010.

Applications must be submitted (including CV) via email to: recruitment@sentrysafe.com stating ref SSE1.

No agencies or telephone applications will be accepted.

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BEDFORD COLLEGE

Bedford College is a growing and highly successful provider of further, adult and higher education, with 15,000 students from over 100 nationalities, 600 staff and excellent financial health. Recognised as 'outstanding' by Ofsted and rated five star by the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM), there has never been a more exciting time to join us as we strive to become a world-class centre for qualifications, skills and training.

Lecturer
£20,500 - £35,800 pa pro rata
(qualified teachers minimum £24,300 pa pro rata)
- Animal Care
- Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities
- Physics
- Motor Vehicle

Assessor – Hospitality
£20,000 pa pro rata
(On Target Earnings)

NVQ Assessor – Childcare
£13.00 per hour
(Temporary until 31 July 2011)

Trainer/Assessor (Hair & Beauty)
£18,600 - £22,700 pa pro rata

Centre Administrator
based at Old Warden Park
£14,600 - £17,900 pa pro rata

Closing date: 7 January 2011

"Working with students is extremely rewarding, and the staff work really well together."
Samantha Sheridan
Trainee Lecturer

Bedford College offers a contributory salary pension scheme, generous holiday entitlement and financially supported continuous professional development opportunities. For further information on these positions and to find out about working at Bedford College, visit www.workingtogetherjobs.co.uk The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.

*for our students *for each other *for you

MINDFUL EMPLOYER · POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE · 157 group · INVESTOR IN PEOPLE · RECOGNISED FOR EXCELLENCE EFQM · Ofsted Outstanding 2008|2009

Online Advertising Sales Executive

£16-20k p/a plus bonus and company car

LSN Media is a successful and progressive publisher of newspapers, magazines and associated websites across Beds, Bucks and Northants and is part of Iliffe News & Media Ltd.

Due to our continued growth and investment in new products – particularly online, we're now looking for an online sales executive to sell advertising, sponsorship and marketing solutions to local and regional advertisers across Beds, Bucks and Northants. This new role will be based at our modern offices in MK close to junction 14 of the M1.

The role is focussed on driving sales of online advertising from existing and new advertisers across our group and involves dealing with existing high profile local accounts as well as smaller local businesses that may benefit from exposure on our growing local websites in Bedford, Luton, Northants and MK. This position would suit a tenacious, hungry and experienced sales person that understands the importance of providing the highest level of customer service. The successful candidate will also have proven sales experience and an interest in developing a long term career within media and/or online. Experience selling advertising would be helpful but is not essential.

You will need to be presentable, persuasive and confident communicating at both MD and grass roots level as well as having the creativity to develop ideas and advertising solutions for our customers online.

This is a great opportunity for an ambitious and professional sales person to join us at a time of real growth and development, and the opportunities for further career advancement within the business are exceptional.

We offer:

Up to £16k - £20k per annum basic salary (dependant on experience)
Realistic bonus of £3-6k p/a
Company Car – Mini Cooper
25 days holiday per year
Regular training – office and field
Contributory pension and healthcare schemes after qualifying period.

If this position interests you and you feel that you can add something to our small, hard-working online sales team please send a letter explaining why you think you fit the bill along with an up to date CV to;

Gemma Dunne, Digital Commercial Manager, LSN Media, 1 Diamond Court, Fox Milne, Milton Keynes MK15 ODU or email gemma.dunne@lsnmedia.co.uk

LSNmedia

It is the company's policy to employ the best qualified personnel and provide equal opportunity for the advancement of employee including promotion & training and not to discriminate against any person because of sex, race, pregnancy, disability, marital or family status, ages, sexual orientation, religious beliefs or trade union memberships.

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MKNEWS

Connection

Connection is an independent charity which provides planned support to people in their own accommodation in Bucks, Oxfordshire & Milton Keynes.

2x Support Worker Milton Keynes (initially 6 months)

Salary range £17,083 to £20,651 (max at appointment £19,384)
30 days leave, pension, flexibility for part time hours
Other opportunities possible within Connection.

Do you have transferable skills and are committed to enabling people with a range of support needs to have the best possible chance of living independently?

For an application pack and details e-mail: enquiries@connectionfs.org

Contact: 01865 336151

Closing date: 10 a.m. Wed 05/01/2011. Interviews: Tues 11/01/2011.

Connection is committed to Equal Opportunities and working together with service users. Charity Number 1049740.

INTERFOAM

Interfoam Ltd, based in Kempston, specialises in the manufacture of moulded polyurethane products for furniture & automotive components and has the following vacancies

Maintenance Engineer

Applicants should have the ability to provide a preventative maintenance schedule and to fault find. Previous relevant experience & qualification essential

Project Engineer

This is a new role and the successful applicant will be expected to take a proactive lead and manage new projects. Ability to communicate with both internal & external customers, previous engineering experience & CAD knowledge are essential.

Part Time HR Manager

The ideal candidate would be expected to cover all aspects of the HR function within a medium sized manufacturing environment, and must have working knowledge of employment law and maintaining databases. Relevant previous experience is essential.

For all positions salary will be commensurate with knowledge and qualifications.

If you have the right experience & qualifications for theses interesting and demanding positions please email your C.V. to Joanne@interfoam.co.uk. No agencies please.

Liebherr is a world-class manufacturer of construction machinery, with an enviable reputation for engineering excellence and employing over 32,000 people worldwide. The successful British operation is responsible for the sales, servicing and rental of Liebherr equipment throughout the United Kingdom.

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SG18 8QB

Applications in writing, with a detailed c.v. and salary expectations, should be sent to Rachael Claridge at the above address or by e-mail to rachael.claridge@liebherr.com

Closing date for applications 7th January 2011

Liebherr-Rental Limited specialises in the hire of earthmoving and material handling equipment. Continued growth and fleet expansion necessitate the appointment of an experienced

Finance Manager

Your Responsibilities

- Manage accounts and administration, including fixed assets, purchase and sales ledger, banks, cash collection and VAT returns
- Accounts preparation to trial balance level, month and year end management accounting
- Assist the Financial Controller with Group reporting, budget creation and analysis
- Effective communication and co-operation with customers, suppliers, internal departments and other Group affiliated companies

Your Profile

- Professional and confident team player with a minimum of three years in a similar role
- Accurate under pressure and able to meet deadlines
- Good IT skills, especially Microsoft Office
- Excellent communications and interpersonal skills

What We Are Offering

- A unique opportunity to make your mark and progress within the successful UK operations of a privately owned global group
- A secure, dynamic and progressive work environment
- Competitive remuneration and benefits package

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The Group

MKNEWS

Local news **EVERY DAY** of the week

www.mk-news.co.uk

Milton Keynes COLLEGE

The College: Since 1982, Milton Keynes College has played a pivotal role in shaping the future of Milton Keynes and our dedicated workforce of 1,400 staff play a vital role in securing this future. The College also holds the contract to deliver the Offenders' Learning and Skills Service at various prisons and young offenders institutions. We strive to be at the heart of a connected and inclusive learning community, and to create an education landscape where there are no boundaries to limit access, progress and success. We are currently recruiting for:

Management & Support Roles

- **Apprentice Administrator (Computing):** £4,940 per annum, fixed term of 12 months
- **Exams Coordinator:** Part time, maternity cover, £15,893 - £19,462 pro rata
- **Reception & Liaison Officer:** Circa £13,500

Lecturer & Trainer/Technician Roles

- **Plumbing:** HMP & YOI Littlehey (near Huntingdon), £17,316 - £24,708
- **Light Vehicle Body Repair:** HMP & YOI Littlehey, £17,316 - £24,708
- **Personal/Social Development:** HMP & YOI Littlehey, £17,316 - £31,314
- **Employability:** HMP & YOI Littlehey, £17,316 - £31,314
- **Peer Support:** HMP & YOI Littlehey, £17,316 - £31,314
- **Skills for Life:** HMP & YOI Littlehey, part time, £17,316 - £31,314 pro rata
- **Employability:** Part time, HMP Stocken (near Rutland), £17,316 - £31,314 pro rata
- **Skills for Life:** Part time, HMP Stocken, £17,316 - £31,314 pro rata
- **Education Generalist:** HMP Whitemoor (near March), part time, £17,316 - £31,314 pro rata
- **Music Technology:** HMP Whitemoor, £17,316 - £31,314
- **Bricklaying:** HMP Onley (near Rugby) £17,316 - £24,708
- **Food Manufacture & Business Improvement:** £17,316 - £24,708

The Benefits: In return, we offer successful applicants generous holidays ranging from 28 to 38 days, ongoing professional development and training, access to a final salary pension, childcare vouchers and an appraisal system to prepare you for your next career step within the College.

Your first step in helping to achieve our vision is to check the following vacancies on our website.

Closing date for all positions is Wednesday 5th January 2011.

Visit our website now for full information and see how you could become part of our vision.

www.mkcollege.ac.uk
Tel: 01908 684327 (answer phone)
Email: recruitment@mkcollege.ac.uk

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PILGRIMS PRE-PREPARATORY SCHOOL

FULL-TIME NURSERY NURSE for Little Pilgrims (birth-3 years)

The successful candidate will have gained their NVQ Level 3
Salary range is £12,693 to £16,181 depending upon experience.
You will work on a shift basis, Monday to Friday,
This is a wonderful opportunity to further your career in child care within the caring and supportive environment of Little Pilgrims

PART-TIME CLEANER

15 hours a week
4.00pm to 7.00pm
Monday-Friday All year round
£6.69 per hour

Closing date for both positions 6th January
Interviews for both positions 13th January
Application forms can be downloaded from our website

Pilgrims School operates a safer recruitment policy. Pilgrims School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

Pilgrims Pre-Preparatory School,
Brickhill Drive, Bedford MK41 7QZ.
email: pilgrims@harpur-trust.org.uk
www.pilgrims-school.info

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Investment for stock needed £4,138
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For more details, email:- franchiseround@hotmail.com

Traffic Marshalls & Labourers req for Milton Keynes site. Must have CSCS & relevant tickets. Please email CV's to: anton.polya@munnellys.com

MKNEWS

Advertising Sales Team Leader

Basic Salary £17,000 - £18,000 per annum, plus Mini Cooper (with realistic bonus structure offering the opportunity to earn £20 - £25K pa)

LSN Media is an innovative and progressive publisher of regional newspapers and websites across Beds and Bucks. We're part of a growing business called **Iliffe News & Media Ltd** that publishes newspapers, magazines and websites across Cambs, Herts, Essex and Staffs, and we now have a vacancy for an experienced advertising sales person to lead our Field Sales team in **Bedford**.

We're looking for a positive and pro-active person to fill this key role. A successful media sales person with a proven track record is required to help manage, motivate and inspire our sales team. You'll need to be hardworking, enthusiastic and have a passion for delivering excellent customer service. You'll also need to lead by example and develop key advertising accounts of your own, whilst helping your team to develop their territories to increase our overall market share. Knowledge or experience of selling to ROP, Property and Internet customers would also be an advantage.

This position would suit either, an experienced media sales executive with the qualities and ambition to develop into a managerial role, or a person currently in a supervisory/junior management position looking for a new and challenging role in a growing market.

We offer all of the usual benefits you would expect from one of the country's leading publishers and the opportunities for further career progression within LSN Media and Iliffe News & Media are excellent. Appropriate and regular training is also offered to all staff.

If this sounds like the right move for you, please send your CV to: Samantha Thompson, Commercial Manager, Bedfordshire on Sunday, 22 Mill Street, Bedford MK40 3HD or preferably email samantha.thompson@LSNMedia.co.uk

Closing date for applications is Friday 17th December 2010.

It is the company's policy to employ the best qualified personnel and provide equal opportunity for the advancement of promotion and training and not to discriminate against any person because of sex, race, pregnancy, disability, marital or family status, ages, sexual orientation, religious beliefs or trade union memberships.

onsunday
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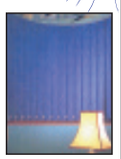

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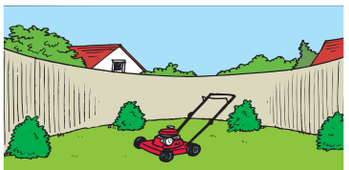

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PUBLIC NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8
and/or
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990
PUBLIC NOTICE UNDER SECTION 67 OR 73

The following applications for Planning Permission, Listed Building Consent and/or Conservation Area Consent have been received and may be inspected at Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, SG17 5TQ during normal office hours.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should write to me at the above address quoting the application number/s, within 21 days of the date of publication of the notice. Comments should be restricted to valid planning considerations such as effect on amenity, privacy, noise, traffic, access etc. All letters received are open to public inspection and so cannot be treated in confidence.

Most simple and straightforward applications are delegated to me to decide but, when the application is determined by the Council's Development Management Committee, you may make your views known by speaking at the Committee meeting. Should the application/s on which you wish to comment be one/s which will be determined by the Development Management Committee and if you wish to present your views in person to the Committee as well as in writing, please say so clearly in your representations and I will send you details of how to proceed as soon as the Committee date is known.

Assistant Director Development Management 12 December 2010

APPLICATION NO: CB/10/04192/REN Affects Right of Way / General Publicity
PROPOSAL: Extension of time limit of implemention of planning permission SB/TP/07/1202 for the erection of a two storey rear extension
LOCATION: 1 Laburnum Cottages, Chiltern Green, Hyde, Luton, LU2 9PW

APPLICATION NO: CB/10/04193/REN Affects Right of Way / General Publicity
PROPOSAL: Extension to the time limit of implementation of planning permission SB/TP/07/1201 for the erection of a two storey rear extension
LOCATION: 2 Laburnum Cottages, Chiltern Green, Hyde, Luton, LU2 9PW

APPLICATION NO: CB/10/04355/FULL Affects Conservation Area
PROPOSAL: Conversion of upper floors into one bedroom and two bedroom self contained flats
LOCATION: 3-5 High Street North, Dunstable, LU6 1JR

APPLICATION NO: CB/10/04360/FULL Affects Conservation Area
PROPOSAL: Full: First floor side and rear extensions.
LOCATION: 17 St Georges Close, Toddington, Dunstable, LU5 6AT

APPLICATION NO: CB/10/04366/FULL Affects Conservation Area
PROPOSAL: Conversion of Chapel to form a single dwelling and including part demolition of rear single storey structures to provide amenity space, formation of new opening to front boundary wall, re-positioning of 4 foundation stones, formation of door opening, reinstatement of bricked-up windows, replacement of entrance doors, insertion of 2 roof lights to the main roof and construction of brick flue to rear elevation.
LOCATION: Heath And Reach Methodist Church, Heath Green, Heath And Reach, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 0AB

APPLICATION NO: CB/10/04367/CA Affects Conservation Area
PROPOSAL: Conversion of Chapel to form a single dwelling and including part demolition of rear single storey structures to provide amenity space, formation of new opening to front boundary wall, re-positioning of 4 foundation stones, formation of door opening, reinstatement of bricked-up windows, replacement of entrance doors, insertion of 2 roof lights to the main roof and construction of brick flue to rear elevation.
LOCATION: Heath And Reach Methodist Church, Heath Green, Heath And Reach, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 0AB

APPLICATION NO: CB/10/04388/FULL Affects Conservation Area
PROPOSAL: Erection of detached bungalow
LOCATION: Land adjacent to 5 Waterloo Road, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 2NR

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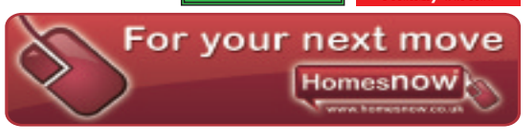

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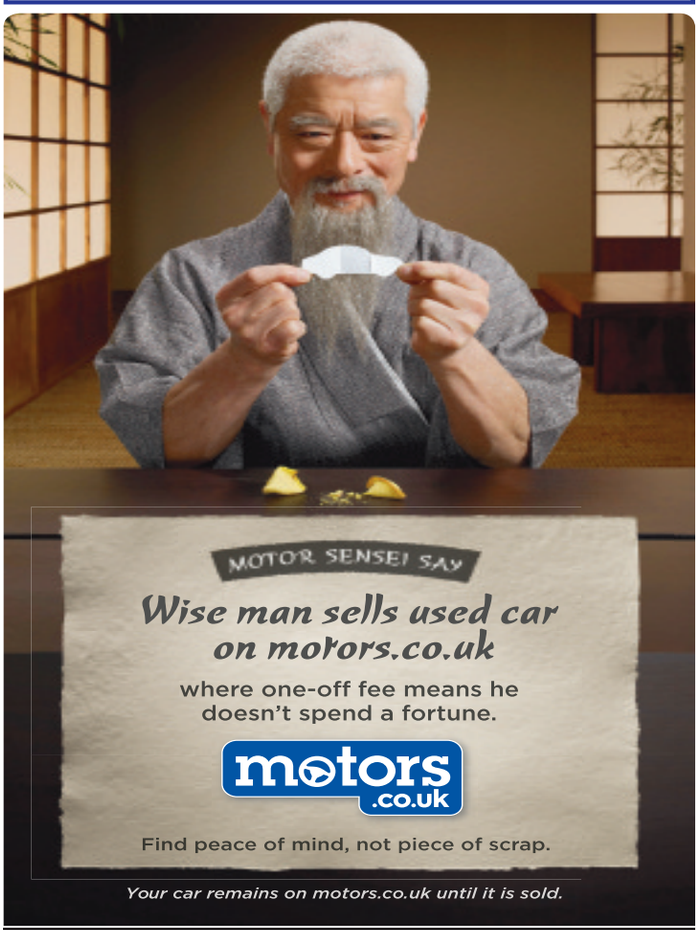

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*Price shown is for Savvy 1.2 Style MT; manufacturer's list price £7,995 excluding metallic which is an option at £365. On the road price includes VAT, delivery, number plates, 12 months' road fund licence and first registration fee. †£750 Finance deposit offer is available to people aged 18 and over, subject to status, when purchasing a new Proton vehicle through Proton Finance Ltd. Minimum 10% deposit required for 'pay later' offer upon order. Indemnities may be required. Excludes Motability and fleet sales. Available at participating dealers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers Proton Finance Ltd., registered address 116 Cockfosters Road, Barnet, EN4 0DY is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Finance Offers end 31st December 2010. ^Free servicing offer available at participating dealers only on Savvy 1.2 Style MT or AMT until 31st December 2010. ‡Warranty is subject to maintenance in accordance with manufacturer's schedules. 3 year or 60,000 miles. Terms & conditions apply to all offers.

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Official fuel consumption figures mpg (l/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km): Lowest: GEN-2 1.3 GLS (petrol); urban 27.7 (10.2), extra urban 56.5 (5.0), combined 40.9 (6.9), CO_2 164; Highest: GEN-2 1.6 GSX AT: urban 26.16 (10.8), extra urban 47.09 (6.0), combined 38.22 (7.8), CO_2 184.

*Price shown is for GEN-2 1.6 GSX MT; manufacturer's list price £10,995 excluding metallic which is an option at £365. On the road price includes VAT, delivery, number plates, 12 months' road fund licence and first registration fee. †£750 Finance deposit offer is available to people aged 18 and over, subject to status, when purchasing a new Proton vehicle through Proton Finance Ltd. Indemnities may be required. Minimum 10% deposit required for 'pay later' offer upon order. Excludes Motability and fleet sales. Available at participating dealers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers Proton Finance Ltd., registered address 116 Cockfosters Road, Barnet, EN4 0DY is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Finance offers end 31st December 2010. ^Free leather offer ends 31st December 2010 and is available on GEN-2 GSX models only. Available at participating dealers only and excludes Motability and Fleet sales. ‡Warranty is subject to maintenance in accordance with manufacturer's schedules. 3 year or 60,000 miles. Terms & conditions apply.

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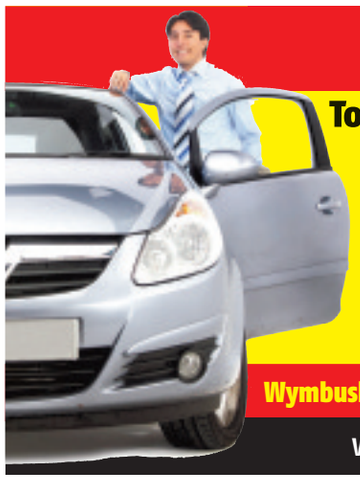

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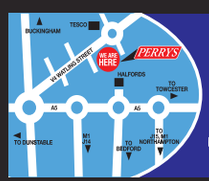

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FIXTURES 2010-11

DONS' SCORE FIRST

August

7	Walsall	A	2-1
10	Dag & Red H (Carling Cup)	H	2-1
21	Carlisle	A	1-4
24	Blackpool (Carling Cup)	H	4-3
28	Swindon	H	2-1

September

4	Hartlepool	H	1-0
11	Brighton	A	0-2
15	Southampton	H	2-0
18	Rochdale	H	1-1
21	Birmingham (Carling Cup)	A	1-3
25	Peterborough	A	1-2
28	Charlton	A	0-1

October

2	Colchester	H	1-1
5	Charlton (JPT)	H	1-2
9	Dag & Red	H	2-0
16	Bournemouth	A	2-3
23	Exeter	H	1-0
30	Tranmere	A	2-4

November

2	Yeovil	H	3-2
6	Stevenage (FAC)	A	0-0
13	Brentford	A	2-0
16	Stevenage (FAC) (Stevenage win 7-6 on penalties)	H	1-1
20	Sheff Wed	H	1-4
23	Huddersfield	A	1-4

December

11	Notts County	A	0-2
18	Oldham	H	
26	Leyton Orient	A	
28	Bournemouth	H	

January

1	Bristol Rovers	H
3	Yeovil	A
8	Exeter	A
15	Tranmere	H
18	Plymouth	H
22	Dag & Red	A
29	Leyton Orient	H

February

2	Bristol Rovers	A
5	Sheff Wed	A
12	Brentford	H
19	Hartlepool	A
26	Brighton	H

March

5	Rochdale	A
8	Charlton	H
12	Colchester	A
19	Peterborough	H
26	Walsall	H

April

2	Southampton	A
9	Carlisle	H
16	Swindon	A
22	Huddersfield	H
25	Plymouth	A
30	Notts County	H

May

7	Oldham	A

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MK Dons assistant manager JOHN GORMAN writes exclusively for MK NEWS every week

ONE thing that surprised me on Saturday at Meadow Lane was how vocal the Notts County support was.

Our travelling fans were great but it showed just how important a home crowd can be in getting a team out of a sticky spell.

We are entering a really busy and crucial period and, after a bit of a bad patch ourselves, I'd like to call on fans to turn out on Saturday against Oldham to really give us an extra lift.

Everyone at the club has been working really hard on the training ground because we want to turn our fortunes around.

We know how fickle this game can be because, a few weeks ago when we beat Brentford we were on a high, but then we lost to Stevenage on penalties in the FA Cup, which was the start of this bad run.

But it's important to show the right attitude and, even though we lost to Notts County, we never gave up.

We were really on top all the way until Alby was sent off. Then they scored a great goal. You have to give young Thomas Ince credit because he hit it well.

Lee Hughes only scored because we were throwing ourselves forward in pursuit of an equaliser.

And in runs like this, I'd have to say how refreshing it is to have a chairman like Pete Winkelman at the helm, especially when you see managers losing their jobs.

He's a stable owner that understands football and he wants to be successful. He's always encouraged to see how hard people are working and he motivates us.

We are focused on playing the right way and we have a belief in a style of football and that's one thing I think that the fans can see.

So, if people can make it to the Oldham game I can't tell you how important that will be, because we know how quickly things can turn around in this game.

However, saying that I know full well there are other things outside of the game that are also important at this time of year, and myself and the club would really like to offer our condolences to the manager Karl and his wife whose father recently passed away.

LEAGUE ONE TABLE

		P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Brighton	19	6	3	0	17	7	4	3	3	14	8	16	36
2	Sheff Wed	20	6	2	3	16	7	4	1	4	17	9	17	33
3	Huddersfield	19	6	2	2	18	9	4	0	5	13	12	10	32
4	Charlton	19	5	3	2	11	11	4	2	3	20	14	6	32
5	Bournemouth	19	7	1	2	25	9	1	5	3	11	12	15	30
6	Colchester	19	4	5	2	16	16	3	4	1	9	7	2	30
7	Oldham	18	4	5	0	15	8	3	3	3	12	13	6	29
8	Peterborough	19	6	1	3	26	23	3	1	5	12	17	-2	29
9	Southampton	19	5	3	3	15	8	3	1	4	11	10	8	28
10	Brentford	19	3	2	4	9	13	5	2	3	14	8	2	28
11	Carlisle	19	5	3	3	16	11	2	3	3	10	9	6	27
12	Hartlepool	18	3	2	3	13	18	4	3	3	8	6	-3	26
13	Exeter	19	4	3	1	15	12	3	2	6	12	21	-6	26
14	MK Dons	19	6	2	1	14	9	2	0	8	11	23	-7	26
15	Plymouth	19	5	2	4	16	16	2	2	4	9	13	-4	25
16	Leyton Orient	19	4	2	2	11	8	2	4	5	16	18	1	24
17	Swindon	19	5	2	3	14	14	1	4	4	16	19	-3	24
18	Rochdale	19	3	4	2	15	12	2	3	5	12	14	1	22
19	Notts County	18	6	0	4	14	11	1	1	6	9	17	-5	22
20	Tranmere	19	3	2	5	10	15	3	2	4	10	13	-8	22
21	Bristol Rovers	19	3	2	3	7	12	2	5	4	16	22	-11	22
22	Dag & Red	19	2	4	2	9	10	2	2	7	12	22	-11	18
23	Walsall	19	3	0	6	10	16	2	2	6	8	16	-14	17
24	Yeovil	19	2	2	4	11	16	2	2	7	9	20	-16	16

Lewis Guy gets away from Stephen Darby with Michael McIndoe in attendance

Robinson's old boys bite Dons

NOTTS COUNTY 2 MK DONS 0

Ince 86, Hughes 90

BY SIMONE CORGAN

simone.corgan@mk-news.co.uk

THE past always comes back to haunt you – that is the lesson Karl Robinson is discovering in his rookie season as a manager.

First it was Dale Jennings' stunning performance and brace in the defeat to Tranmere, next it was Neil Mellor's hat-trick in the 4-1 thrashing by Sheffield Wednesday; and then last Saturday Thomas Ince netted the opener in the Dons' 2-0 defeat Notts County.

And the connection linking the three of them is they were all coached by Robinson when he was in the set-up at Liverpool.

As Ince, the son of former Dons boss and now County manager Paul, warmed up on the touchline the Dons were reduced to ten men – after Aaron Wilbraham picked up his second booking – and they would have settled for a stalemate.

But football is a funny old game.

All the talk in the build up to the match was about Robinson coming up against Ince senior, the man he was first team coach and assistant to for three years at stadiummk.

Yet, it was Ince junior who did all the damage with the sweetest of strikes when Stephen Gleeson's misplaced header fell into the path of his left boot.

He is a player the Dons backroom staff are all too aware of, as is chairman Pete Winkelman who turned down Paul Ince's request to bring his son on loan to MK last season.

Substitute Lee Hughes showed his vast years of experience with a composed second goal for the Magpies in injury time, but it was the young Ince who stole the limelight with his first professional goal, setting Notts County on their way to their maiden win over MK Dons.

A goalless draw would have been a welcome result for the Dons given they had conceded eight in their previous two games yet, although they did look more confident in defence, that was not to be as County's advantage told late on.

What will be more of a concern for Robinson and co is the Dons' lack of threat in front of goal.

Lewis Guy wasted several chances, while Wilbraham and Jabo Ibehre were solid without ever really troubling County goalkeeper Robert Burch.

Robinson was at a loss to explain why the players he had trained as youngsters were out to get him in League One.

"I said to John Gorman when Thomas scored that it was written in the stars – ex-manager's son comes on to beat his old club," said the boss.

"I had Dale Jennings at Liverpool, who scored twice for Tranmere against us; Neil Mellor, who scored three for Sheffield Wednesday; and now Thomas Ince. They're all coming back to get me for some unknown reason."

COMING UP

OLDHAM ATH
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DONS boss Karl Robinson will be without suspended Aaron Wilbraham as they meet Oldham Athletic after a four game losing streak, stretching back to November 13.

The striker was dismissed for a second yellow card on Saturday and will not be available until the Boxing Day trip to Leyton Orient.

A win against Oldham could see MK draw level on points with Paul Dickov's Latics and put Dons right back in the play-off mix despite having played a game more than the Greater Manchester side.

Last season's fixture saw the two sides play out a stalemate, but Dons fans will be hoping for a repeat of the previous campaign when they dished out a 6-2 hammering.

But that victory is only one of two times Dons have managed to beat Oldham in the league with their previous success being a 2-1 triumph at Boundary Lane in 2006.

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Sinners prove costly to Bletchley

RUGBY

Amersham & Chiltern 21
Bletchley 6

BLETCHLEY lost out in a second half that saw them at a numerical disadvantage for the most part due to four sin-binnings.

Despite being short on training time and with illness and injuries forcing some changes, they held their own in the first period against the second placed team in South West One East, but playing conditions were never going to produce a rugby spectacle.

From the off, Amersham applied pressure, forcing the game to be played mainly in the Bletchley half for the first part of the match.

The visitors' defence was up to the challenge and, as Amersham became frustrated at not making progress, they conceded several penalties that allowed Bletchley to relieve the pressure. Tim Stobbs put in some excellent tackles and the scrambling defence filled the gaps that Amersham were desperately trying to open up and expose.

However, after 23 minutes the pressure finally paid off for the hosts and a penalty kick gave them a three point lead.

The restart gave Bletchley some much needed possession and they worked hard to bring the play into Amersham's half.

A quick break from a scrum by number nine, Cuan McKenzie gave Bletchley a sniff of a score, but he was illegally tacked around the neck and a penalty awarded, but no yellow card. Phil Harman slotted the kick from 35 yards and Bletchley were level 3-3 after 31 minutes.

Bletchley turned Amersham over after the restart and the hosts quickly conceded a penalty which Harman kicked for a 3-6 at the interval, though not without Amersham knocking on with the try line in sight.

Amersham were level ten minutes into the second half with a penalty and they began to exert pressure on the visitors. Only a terrific tackle by Simon Pitfield, who took the Amersham winger into touch short of the try line, kept the hosts off the scoreboard, albeit momentarily.

From the lineout, Bletchley were adjudged to have infringed and a penalty was awarded to Amersham as well as Bletchley being reduced to 14 men.

Amersham took the opportunity to go into a 9-6 lead and it got worse when they ran over in the corner to extend their advantage by five further points.

There then followed a bizarre ten minutes of play. Two minutes after Bletchley's one-man disadvantage was restored they had two players dismissed to the sin-bin in quick succession, quickly followed by a third player.

Amersham were unable to put their numerical superiority to its full advantage. They only added one further converted try to their score as Bletchley's stubborn defence did their best to deny them.

Reading 66
Olney 12

THIS contest was essentially decided by half time as Reading put 30 points on the board without reply against a changed Olney XV.

Olney had been short of game and training time after their two previous two fixtures were postponed due to the cold snap.

The visitors made a small impression on the scoreboard in the second half, scoring two tries from back rowers, John Robinson and Cameron Byrne, with one conversion by Mark Marwood.

But it only served to anger Reading who continued to punish their opponents, putting another thirty points on them, particularly taking advantage of the weakness shown by the Olney side around the fringes of rucks and mauls.

Olney have a lot to work on this week before playing the final fixture of 2010 at home on Saturday against Reading Abbey, though still sit in a respectable fourth position in South West One East.

ICE HOCKEY

Slough put an end to Lightning's cup dream

MK Lightning's quest for the Holy Grail was put on hold for another year as their challenge for the one trophy still missing from the honour's list failed again when they lost their final EPL cup qualifier against Slough 3-2.

Both teams came out and made good chances but it was Slough who took the lead, somewhat against the run of play, when Darius Pliskauskas beat Alex Mettam to make it 1-0, 15 minutes in.

Things got worse for Lightning early in the second period as Doug Sheppard pounced soon after to score a delayed penalty goal.

Lightning responded quickly through Nick Poole whilst on a powerplay. MK took the second period when Adam Brittle scored just after the half hour mark and the second period ended at 2-2.

The third session became frantic and Doug Sheppard's second goal of the night, a powerplay effort proved to be the match winner.

Despite playing the final minute with an empty net Lightning couldn't find the target to take the game to overtime.

Sunday's league game against the bottom team Bracknell Bees proved to be a one-sided affair as Lightning cruised into a six-goal lead before taking their foot off the gas and briefly allowing Bees some time on the puck and conceded three goals.

But MK's superiority showed scoring twice more to come out 8-3 victors.

Leigh Jamison opened the scoring with an individual goal when he broke through the Bees defence and rifled the puck home after seven minutes of the first period. Poole scored his second of the weekend when he deflected a shot from Michael Farn from the point underneath the Bees netminder to finish the scoring in the first quarter.

On target MK Lightning cruise to an 8-3 win against Bracknell Picture Jezz Tibbetts:

Gary Clarke scored twice in the opening five minutes of the second to take his tally to 16 from 22 games, before Lightning's leading points scorer Andre Smulter robbed the puck off Bees' import defender and skated through to score a short-handed goal just before the halfway mark.

Despite chance after chance it took MK over ten minutes to score their sixth, this time from Monir Kalgoum, who picked up a rebound from Clarke's effort.

Into the final period, and with the game already won, Lightning eased up which allowed Bees to ruin MK netminder, Barry Hollyhead's chance of a shutout in his return game from injury.

Lucas Zatopek and Smulter finished the game off to take the points.

MK Lightning play the league leaders, the Manchester Phoenix at Planet Ice, MK on Saturday with the face-off at 7pm before their final visit of the season to Bracknell on Sunday

PRO GOLF

In short, Poulter's the best

IAN POULTER'S short game was hailed as one of the best in the world by Graeme McDowell after he and partner Dustin Johnson ended the year on a high to beat the US Open champion and Darren Clarke in the Shark Shootout.

The pair shot a 13-under 59 to down the Woburn Golf Club professional's Ryder Cup team-mates in Florida, USA.

Birdies on the first four holes from Poulter and his partner saw them lead the way from hole three as the Northern Irish pair, playing with them, never came closer than two strokes in the 12-team tournament hosted by Greg Norman at Tiburon Golf Club.

"Ian is one of the best chippers of the ball in the world, and he was the man for the job," said McDowell, who was named joint European Tour Golfer of the Year this month with Martin Kaymer.

"They kind of pushed us around," said Poulter of their rivals. "You know what, making the birdies they did, it was kind of good for us to see good shot after good shot, and good putts going in. It's a lot easier to hole putts when your playing partners do."

"He hit some good shots and holed a couple of important shots," said Johnson of Poulter. "Me putting first on tricky greens definitely helped Ian get a good line and he executed very nicely."

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Poulter is simply the best - Page 39

Leven says Dons need a bit of luck to beat slump

PETER LEVEN is confident that MK Dons can turn the tide and get back to winning ways, saying that all they need is a little bit of luck to start going their way.

Dons are without a win in four games after sinking to a 2-0 defeat to Notts County on Saturday.

An enforced two week break due to the recent cold snap has extended their wait for a victory, yet the midfielder is certain that they should have come away from Meadow Lane with a point.

"Everything seems to have gone against us in the last few weeks," he said, adding: "The gods above us are not helping us out with the breaks at the minute."

Dons will get their chance to pick up that victory as they turn their attention to the visit of Oldham Athletic on Saturday.

Leven has admitted that there have been no heads hanging in the dressing room, so there's every chance they can get a result against Paul Dickov's men that would draw them level on points with a Latics side who sit one place outside the play-offs positions.

"There's 20 odd games to go and if you look at the players we've got, it's got to change at some point," said Leven. "We still believe. There's no point coming in every day if not.

"I believe we can get up there at the end of the season. We'll just keep fighting."

The 27-year-old believes that the way in which he and his teammates set about their task against Notts County bears out that spirit in the camp.

"The team effort was superb," he said. "We stuck in together and worked really hard, tackling and back each other up, but it just went against us. We need to start picking up points."

Peter Leven looks to slide in a pass against Notts County last Saturday

It was a fabulous strike from former Dons boss Paul Ince's son Thomas, five minutes from time, that broke the deadlock and helped his father - now manager of the Magpies - get one over on his old side.

A late strike from Lee Hughes then confirmed the defeat.

But before that, Leven has said that they were doing everything right, and that Ince junior's strike came somewhat out of the blue.

"I thought we were comfortable," he said. "In the first half we didn't play our best but we were solid in our shape.

"We passed well and had four clean cut chances.

"Even with ten men I thought we were comfortable but it is one of those things.

"It's Roy of the Rovers stuff. To be fair to the boy, it was a great hit.

"It could have gone anywhere but he's connected well with it."

To compound Dons' misery, Aaron Wilbraham was shown a second yellow card and will now miss the visit of Oldham Athletic on Saturday through suspension.

And the Scot thinks that his dismissal was yet another example of things not going Dons' way.

"I didn't see it but Aaron said the boy ducked down into his elbow," he said.

"The big man's an honest guy and he said it wasn't a red card.

"There were a few decisions that went against us. There were a few tackles from them and they never seemed to get punished for it."

MK Lions get ready to roar

VINCE Macaulay says the Lions are 'roaring to get going' with their season as they prepare for two games this weekend, including only the second staging of a clash at their new MK Lions Arena home in Winterhill on Sunday.

Without a home at the start of the season, they have only played five league games this season - winning two home clashes and losing three on the road - whereas this weekend's two British Basketball League opponents, Worcester Wolves and Cheshire Jets, have already fulfilled 13 and ten championship fixtures, respectively.

But Macaulay believes a forthcoming spell of home games can be the spur to help them move up the table.

"It's taken so long to get in the new arena, but we are keen to get started and get some chemistry going," said the chief executive.

Since their televised house warming win, over Essex Pirates at the end of November, they have had their fixture at Worthing postponed, and that has meant they've not played a game since November 28.

Yesterday, the Lions released a revised fixture list which keeps them at home for four consecutive games out of six in January. "We're looking forward to a rash of games there," Macaulay.

The Lions' position of third from bottom is false, considering their lack of championship games.

"We'll go into it in good spirits and we're well rested – we're roaring to get going," said Macaulay.

Before the home tie against the Jets is the not inconsiderable matter of a trip to the Wolves, but chief executive Macaulay is unconcerned about their form on their travels: "The three away games that we've lost, we have only lost by a total of five points, so it's been tight."

■ **The Lions are giving away the chance to win a VIP Driving Dream Day in a V12 Lamborghini Murcielago at Bruntingthorpe in a raffle. Tickets cost £2 and the winning ticket will be drawn at the end of the third quarter at this Sunday's home game against Cheshire Jets.**